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<p>(54) Title: ALPHAVIRUS VECTORS</p> <p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>A modified alphavirus expression vector is provided wherein at least one optimal heterologous splice site is introduced to the alphavirus replicon to prevent aberrant splicing of the alphavirus, which may be Semliki Forest virus following administration of the vector to a host.</p>			

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TITLE OF INVENTIONALPHAVIRUS VECTORS

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FIELD OF INVENTION

The present invention relates to the field of DNA vaccines and is particularly concerned with modified alpha virus vectors for use in such vaccines.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 Semliki Forest virus (SFV) is a member of the Alphavirus genus in the Togaviridae family. The mature virus particle contains a single copy of a ssRNA genome with a positive polarity that is 5'-capped and 3'-polyadenylated. It functions as an mRNA and naked RNA can start an infection when introduced into cells. Upon infection/transfection, the 5' two-thirds of the genome is translated into a polyprotein that is processed into the four nonstructural proteins (nsP1 to 4) by self cleavage. Once the ns proteins have been synthesized 15 they are responsible for replicating the plus-strand (42S) genome into full-length minus strands (ref. 14). These minus-strands then serve as templates for the synthesis of new plus-strand (42S) genomes and the 26S subgenomic mRNA (ref. 1 - Throughout this application, 20 various references are cited in parentheses to describe more fully the state of the art to which this invention pertains. Full bibliographic information for each citation is found at the end of the specification. The disclosures of these references are hereby incorporated 25 by reference into the present disclosure). This subgenomic mRNA, which is colinear with the last one-third of the genome, encodes the SFV structural 30

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proteins. In 1991 Liljestrom and Garoff (ref. 2) designed a series of expression vectors based on the SFV CDNA replicon. These vectors had the virus structural protein genes deleted to make the way for heterologous 5 inserts, but preserved the nonstructural coding region for production of the nsP1 to 4 replicase complex. Short 5' and 3' sequence elements required for RNA replication were also preserved. A polylinker site was inserted downstream from the 26S promoter followed by 10 translation stop sites in all three frames. An SpeI site was inserted just after the 3' end of the SFV CDNA for linearization of the plasmid for use in vitro transcription reactions.

Injection of SFV RNA encoding a heterologous 15 protein have been shown to result in the expression of the foreign protein and the induction of antibody in a number of studies (refs. 3,4). The use of SFV RNA inoculation to express foreign proteins for the purpose of immunization would have several of the advantages 20 associated with plasmid DNA immunization. For example, SFV RNA encoding a viral antigen may be introduced in the presence of antibody to that virus without a loss in potency due to neutralization by antibodies to the virus. Also, because the protein is expressed in vivo 25 the protein should have the same conformation as the protein expressed by the virus itself. Therefore, concerns about conformational changes which could occur during protein purification leading to a loss in immunogenicity, protective epitopes and possibly 30 immunopotentiation, could be avoided by plasmid DNA immunization.

In WO95/27044, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference, there is described the use of alphavirus cDNA vectors based on cDNA complementary to the alphavirus RNA sequence. Once 5 transcribed from the cDNA under transcriptional control of a heterologous promoter, the alphavirus RNA is able to self-replicate by means of its own replicase and thereby amplify the copy number of the transcribed recombinant RNA molecules.

10

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is concerned with modifications to the alphavirus cDNA vectors described in the aforementioned WO 95/27044 to permit enhanced replication of the alphavirus. In the present 15 invention, a heterologous splice site is introduced into the alphavirus replicon sequence, particularly that of Semliki Forest virus (SFV).

Accordingly, in one aspect, the present invention provides an expression vector comprising a DNA molecule 20 complementary to at least part of an alphavirus RNA genome, which DNA molecule comprises the complement of the complete alphavirus RNA genome regions which are essential for replication of the said alphavirus RNA, and further comprises a heterologous DNA sequence 25 capable of expression in a suitable host, such as a human or animal host, said heterologous DNA sequence being inserted into a region of the DNA molecule which is non-essential to replication thereof, and the DNA molecule being placed under transcriptional control of 30 a promoter sequence functional in said animal or human host, wherein at least one heterologous splice site is

provided in the DNA molecule to prevent aberrant RNA splicing of the alphavirus.

The alphavirus molecule is a large molecule and, accordingly, there is a high probability of cryptic splice sites, thereby impairing the replication of the alphavirus and hence its ability to express the heterologous DNA is impaired. By introducing the at least one optimal heterologous splice site in accordance with the present invention into the alphavirus replicon sequence, any splicing is likely to be directed at the heterologous splice site rather than any cryptic splice sites, restores the function of the SFV replicon when removed, and may improve transport of RNA from the nucleus (ref. 6).

In the constructs provided herein, the promoter is placed upstream of the 5'-end of the alphavirus sequence, such that the resultant transcript has an authentic 5'-end, which is required for the efficient replication of the alphavirus RNA replicon.

In addition, there may be provided at the 3'end of the Semliki Forest virus segment, a hepatitis delta virus ribozyme sequence to ensure proper *in vivo* cleavage at the 3'-end of the sequence. Any other convenient sequence may be employed to achieve this effect.

The heterologous splice site sequence may be provided by the nucleotide sequence of the rabbit β -globin intron II, as described in reference 5. Such heterologous splice site sequence may be inserted into the complement sequence at any convenient location which generates perfect splice junctions. This

precludes replication of the alphavirus, unless it is authentically removed by splicing..

I have identified five suitable sites in the SFV replicon, which are contained within an EcoRV-SpeI fragment of the replicon which is 8010 bp in length (Fig. 3). The first such site is a Ppu-MI site, at position 2719 within the EcoRV-SpeI fragment.

In constructing the modified vectors provided herein, the EcoRV-SpeI fragment is cut with Ppu-MI at position 2719 and made blunt-ended with Mung Bean nuclease, which removes three bases from the SFV sequence. A blunt-ended β -globin II intron, which is 536 bp long, is ligated into the site and replaces the missing three bases with sequence added to the 3'-end of the β -globin intron sequence (Fig. 1).

The other four suitable sites for insertion of the Intron are the PvuII sites at bp 2518, 3113, 6498 and 6872 of the EcoRV-SpeI fragment. Insertion of the Intron is achieved by cutting with PvuII (a blunt end cutter) and the blunt-ended β -globin II intron sequence (Fig. 2) is ligated into one or more of these sites.

In a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a cloning vector suitable for expression in a host cell of an heterologous DNA sequence, which comprises a DNA molecule complementing to at least part of an alphavirus RNA genome, which DNA molecule comprises the complement of the complete alphavirus RNA genome regions and has a cloning site for insertion therein of a heterologous DNA sequence capable of expression in a host cell, said cloning site being located in a region of the DNA molecule which is

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non-essential to replication thereof; a promoter sequence functional in said host cell and transcriptionally controlling said DNA molecule, said promoter sequence being placed upstream of the 5'-end
5 of the DNA molecule such that the resultant transcript had an authentic 5' end; at least one heterologous splice site provided in the complement of the DNA molecule to generate perfect splice junctions in the alphavirus in order to prevent aberrant splicing and an
10 additional DNA sequence at the 3'-end of the DNA molecule to direct proper *in vivo* cleavage at the 3'-end of the reactant mRNA transcript.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Figure 1 shows the DNA sequence of the β -globin
15 intron II including three additional nucleotides at the 3'-end thereof (SEQ ID No:1);

Figure 2 shows the DNA sequence of the β -globin
intron II (SEQ ID No:2);

Figures 3A to 3C show the DNA sequence of the
20 EcoRV-SpeI fragment of Semliki Forest virus replicon
(SEQ ID No:3);

Figures 4A to 4D show the DNA sequence of the pSFV
link (SEQ ID no: 4) prepared as illustrated in Figure
5;

25 Figure 5 shows construction of pSFVlink (11060 bp)
from pSFV1 using a linker sequence (SEQ ID nos: 5,6);

Figures 6A to 6D show the nucleotide sequence of
plasmid pMP76 (SEQ ID no: 11, prepared as illustrated
in Figures 8A to 8D;

30 Figure 7 illustrates subsections of plasmid pSFV
link (see Figure 5);

Figure 8A to 8D show the construction of plasmid pMP76 from plasmids pMP53, pMP70, pMP47, pMP55 and pMP71;

Figures 9A to 9B show the construction of plasmids 5 pMP53, pMP54 and pMP55 from plasmid pMP52;

Figure 10 shows the construction of plasmid MP52 from pUC19 using a linker sequence (SEQ ID no: 7,8);

Figures 11A to 11B show the construction of 10 plasmids pMP46, pMP47 and pMP70 from pUC19 and fragment from pSFV link, prepared as seen in Figure 7; and

Figures 12A to 12B show the construction of plasmid pMP71 from plasmid pCMV3.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION

15 As discussed above, the present invention provides a modified alphavirus DNA. The alphavirus preferably is Semliki Forest virus. In particular, the present invention provides a cloning vector for heterologous gene expression in a host, such as an animal or human.

20 The promoter sequence may comprise a promoter of eukaryotic or prokaryotic origin. Suitable promoters are the cytomegalovirus immediate early promoter (pCMV), although other promoters, such as the Rous sarcoma virus long-terminal repeat promoter (pRSV), 25 since, in the case of these and similar promoters, transcription is performed by the DNA-dependent RNA polymerase of the host cell. Additionally, the SP6, T3 or T7 promoters can be used, provided that the cell has first been transformed with genes encoding SP6, T3 or 30 T7 RNA polymerase molecules which are either inserted into the chromosome or remain episomal. Expression of

these (SP6, T3, T7) RNA polymerase-encoding genes is dependent on the host cell DNA-dependent RNA polymerase.

The heterologous DNA insert may comprise the 5 coding sequence for a desired product, which may be a biologically active protein or polypeptide, for example, the heterologous DNA insert may code for HIV sequences, e.g., an immunogenic or antigenic protein or polypeptide, or a therapeutically active protein or 10 polypeptide. The heterologous DNA may also comprise additional sequences, such as a sequence complementary to an RNA sequence which is a self-cleaving ribozyme sequence.

The DNA vectors provided herein may be 15 administered to a host, including a human host, for *in vivo* expression of the heterologous DNA sequence, in accordance with a further aspect of the invention, in order to generate an immune response in the host, which may be a protective immune response. The DNA vectors 20 may be further formulated into immunogenic compositions for such administration.

BIOLOGICAL DEPOSITS

Certain vectors that contain the Semliki Forest 25 virus replicon and referred to herein have been deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) located at 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20110-2209, U.S.A., pursuant to the Budapest Treaty and prior to the filing of this application.

30 Samples of the deposited plasmids will become available to the public upon grant of a patent based

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upon this United States patent application and all restrictions on access to the deposits will be removed at that time. Non-viable deposits will be replaced. The invention described and claimed herein is not to be limited in scope by plasmids deposited, since the deposited embodiment is intended only as an illustration of the invention.

Deposit Summary

	<u>Plasmid</u>	<u>ATCC Designation</u>	<u>Date Deposited</u>
10	pMP76		

EXAMPLES

The above disclosure generally describes the present invention. A more complete understanding can be obtained by reference to the following specific Examples. These Examples are described solely for purposes of illustration and are not intended to limit the scope of the invention. Changes in form and substitution of equivalents are contemplated as circumstances may suggest or render expedient. Although specific terms have been employed herein, such terms are intended in a descriptive sense and not for purposes of limitations.

Methods of molecular genetics, protein biochemistry and immunology used but not explicitly described in this disclosure and these Examples are amply reported in the scientific literature and are well within the ability of those skilled in the art.

EXAMPLE 1

This Example describes the construction of plasmid pMP76 as outlined in Figures 5, 7, 8A, 8B, 8C, 8D, 9A, 9B, 10, 11A, 11B, 12A and 12B.

5 Plasmid pSFV link was created by restricting plasmid pSFV1 (Gibco) with BamHI. This plasmid was then ligated with a linker (SEQ ID no: 5 and 6) to produce plasmid pSFV link (Figures 4A to 4D, Figure 5).

Some of the SFV replicon fragments were subcloned
10 by restricting pSFVlink with EcoRV and SpeI and isolating the 890bp EcoRV-SpeI fragment. This fragment was then restricted with EcoRI and the 1906bp EcoRV-EcoRI, the 1578bp and 3627bp EcoRI-EcoRI and the 899bp EcoRI-SpeI fragments isolated (Fig.7).

15 The 1909bp EcoRV-EcoRI SFV fragment was cloned into EcoRV-EcoRI restricted plasmid pMP52 to produce plasmid pMP53 (Fig.9A). The 899bp EcoRI-SpeI SFV fragment was cloned into EcoRI-SpeI restricted pMP52 to produce pMP54 (Fig.9A). Plasmid pMP54 was then
20 restricted with SpeI and made blunt-ended with Mung Bean nuclease. The plasmid was then restricted with BglII, dephosphorylated and ligated to the hepatitis delta virus ribozyme linker (SEQ ID nos. 9 and 10), that had been phosphorylated, to produce pMP55 (Fig.
25 9B).

Plasmid pMP52 was created by ligating a linker (SEQ ID nos:7,8), into the EcoRI site of pUC19 (Fig.10).

The 1578bp EcoRI-SFV fragment was cloned into
30 the EcoRI site of pUC19, to produce pMP46 (Fig.11A). This plasmid was then restricted with PpuM1 and made

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blunt-ended with Mung Bean nuclease. The rabbit β -globin intron II PCR fragment (Fig.1) was made blunt-ended with Mung Bean nuclease, phosphorylated and ligated to the PpuMI restricted pMP46 to produce 5 plasmid pMP70 (Fig.11B).

The 3627bp EcoRI SFV fragment was cloned into the EcoRI site of pUC19 to produce pMP47 (Fig.11A).

Plasmid pCMV3, which contains the CMV promoter, Intron A sequence, BGH poly A sequence and 10 SU40 poly A sequence, was restricted with NdeI and EcoRV. The 3191bp NdeI-EcoRV fragment was isolated and dephosphorylated. The 1321bp NdeI-EcoRV fragment was isolated and restricted with SacI. The NdeI-SacI fragment of 334bp was isolated (Fig.12A). The isolated 15 SacI-EcoRV PCR fragment containing the 5'-end of SFV was ligated to the previously isolated 334bp NdeI-SacI fragment and the 3191bp NdeI-EcoRV fragment to produce pMP71 (Fig.12A and 12B).

Plasmid pMP53 was then restricted with EcoRI 20 and BamHI and ligated to the isolated and dephosphorylated 2151bp EcoRI fragment from pMP70 (Fig.8A). This ligation was then restricted with EcoRV and the 4057bp EcoRV-EcoRI fragment purified(Fig.8A).

Plasmid pMP47 was restricted with EcoRI and 25 the 3627bp EcoRI fragment isolated and dephosphorylated (Fig.8B). Plasmid pMP55 was then restricted with BglII, dephosphorylated and restricted with EcoRI. The 985bp EcoRI-BglII fragment was isolated and ligated to the previously isolated EcoRI fragment from pMP47 30 (Fig.8B). The ligation reaction was then

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phosphorylated and the 4612bp EcoRI-BglII fragment isolated.

Plasmid pMP71 was restricted with EcoRV and BamHI then dephosphorylated. This fragment was used in a 3-way ligation with the previously isolated 4612bp EcoRI-BglII fragment from pMP47 and pMP55, and the 4057bp EcoRV-EcoRI fragment from pMP53 and pMP70, to produce pMP76 (Figs. 8B and 8C).

The 5' end of the SFV replicon was produced by PCR 10 amplification of pSFV1 using primers SFV-5'-3' having the sequence

5'-ATCTATGAGCTCGTTAGTGAACCGTATGGCGGATGTGTGACATACA-3'

and EcoR-SPE having the sequence

5'-TCCACCTCCAAGGATATCCAAGATGAGTGTG-3' (SEQ ID no: 9 and

15 SEQ ID no: 10 respectively) between the CMV promoter and the 5' end of the SFV replicon. The resulting PCR fragment was restricted with SacI and EcoRV (Fig. 13; SEQ ID no: 11) and the fragment isolated.

SUMMARY OF DISCLOSURE

20 In summary of this disclosure, the present invention provides a modified alphavirus-based expression vector wherein at least one optimal splice site is introduced to the alphavirus replicon to prevent aberrant splicing of the alphavirus genome; and 25 improve transport of RNA out of the nucleus. Modifications are possible within the scope of the invention.

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CLAIMS

1. An expression vector, comprising a DNA molecule complementary to at least part of an alphavirus RNA genome, which DNA molecule comprises the complement of the complete alphavirus RNA genome regions which are essential for replication of the said alphavirus RNA and further comprises a heterologous DNA sequence capable of expression in a host, said heterologous DNA sequence being inserted into a region of the DNA molecule which is non-essential to replication thereof, and the DNA molecule being placed under transcriptional control of a promoter sequence functional in said host, wherein at least one heterologous splice site is provided in the DNA molecule to prevent aberrant RNA splicing of the alphavirus.
2. The vector of claim 1 wherein said promoter is placed upstream of the 5'-end of the DNA molecule such that the resultant transcript has an authentic 5'-end.
3. The vector of claim 2 wherein said promoter is the cytomegalovirus immediate early promoter.
4. The vector of claim 1 which further comprises an additional DNA sequence at the 3'-end of the DNA molecule to direct proper *in vivo* cleavage at the 3'-end of the DNA molecule.
5. The vector of claim 4 wherein said additional DNA sequence comprises a hepatitis delta ribozyme sequence.
6. The vector of claim 1 wherein the heterologous splice site sequence is provided by the DNA sequence of the rabbit β -globin intron II.
7. The vector of claim 6 wherein the heterologous splice site sequence is inserted into the DNA molecule

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at a location which generates perfect splice junctions and restores the function of the SFV replicon when removed.

8. The vector of claim 1 wherein the alphavirus is a
5 Simliki Forest virus.

9. A cloning vector suitable for expression in a host cell of an heterologous DNA sequence, which comprises:

a DNA molecule complementing to at least part of an alphavirus RNA genome, which DNA molecule comprises
10 the complement of the complete alphavirus RNA genome regions and has a cloning site for insertion therein of a heterologous DNA sequence capable of expression in a host cell, said cloning site being located in a region of the DNA molecule which is non-essential to
15 replication thereof;

a promoter sequence functional in said host cell and transcriptionally controlling said DNA molecule, said promoter sequence being placed upstream of the 5'-end of the DNA molecule such that the resultant
20 transcript had an authentic 5' end;

at least one heterologous splice set provided in the complement of the DNA molecule to permit aberrant RNA splicing of one to generate perfect splice junctions in the alphavirus; and

25 an additional DNA sequence at the 3'-end of the DNA molecule to direct proper *in vivo* cleavage at the 3'-end of the reactant RNA molecule.

10. The cloning vector of claim 9 wherein said heterologous splice set is provided by the DNA sequence
30 of the rabbit β -globin intron II.

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11. The cloning vector of claim 9 wherein said additional sequence comprises a hepatitis delta ribozyme sequence.
12. The cloning vector of claim 8 wherein the 5 alphavirus is a Semliki Forest virus.
13. The cloning vector of claim 8 which has the identifying characteristics of plasmid pMP76 shown in Figure 8D.
14. The cloning vector of claim 8 having SEQ ID no:
10 11.

FIG.1

Nucleotide Sequence of the β -globin intron II with the 3' SFV bases

gtgagttgg ggacccttga ttgttctttc ttttcggcta ttgtaaaatt catgttatat 60
ggagggggca aagtttcag ggtgttgtt agaaatggaa gatgtccctt gtatcaccat 120
ggaccctcat gataattttg ttctttcac ttctactct gttgacaacc attgtctcct 180
cttattttct tttcattttc tgtaactttt tcgtaaact tcgtaactttt ttagcttgca tttgttaacga 240
attttaaat tcacttttg ttattttca gattttaagt actttctcta atcactttt 300
tttcaaggca atcagggtat attatatgt acttcaggcac agttttagag aacaatttgtt 360 1/39
ataatttaaat gataaggtag aatatttctg catabaaatt ctggctggcg tggaaatatt 420
cttattttga gaaaacaacta catcctgtgc atcatctgc ctttctttt atggttacaa 480
tgatatacac tgtttgagat gaggataaaa tactctgagt ccaaacccggg cccctctgct 540
aaccatgttc atgccttctt cttttccctt caggtc 576

FIG.2Nucleotide Sequence of the β -globin intron II

gtgagttgg ggacccttga ttgttctttc tttttcgcta 60
ggaggggcca aagttttcag ggtgttgttt agaatggaa gtatccatt 120
ggaccctcat gataattttg tttttttcac ttgtcaacc attgtctcct 180
cttattttct tttcattttc tgtaacttt tcgttaaact ttgttaacga 240
attttaat tcacttttg ttatttgtca gattgttaagt actttctta atcactttt 300
tttcaaggca atcagggtat attatattt actttagcactt acaatttgtt 360
ataatttaat gataaggtag aatattctg catabaaatt ctggctggcg tggaaatatt 420
cttattggta gaaacaacta catcctggtc atcatccgtc ctttctttt atggttacaa 480
tgatatacac tgtttgagat gaggataaaa tactctgagt ccaaaccggg cccctctgct 540
aaccatgttc atgccttctt cttttcccta cag 573

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FIG.3A
Eco RV-SpeI Fragment of Semliki Forest virus replicon

atccgcagg	cgcctccag	gagaatgatg	tctacgcaca	aataccactg	cgtatgccct	60
atggcgccg	cagaagacc	cggaaaggctc	gatacgctacg	caaagaaact	ggcaggcccc	120
tccggaaagg	tgctggatag	agagatcgca	ggaaaaaatca	ccgacctgca	gaccgtcatg	180
gctacgccc	acgctgaatc	tccttaccttt	tgccctgcata	cagacgtcac	gtgtcgtag	240
gcagccgaa	tgcccgatata	cgaggacgtg	tatgtctgtac	atgaccaac	atcgctgtac	300
catcaggcga	tggaaagggt	cagaacggcg	tattggatgg	ggtttgacac	caccgggtt	360
atgtttgacg	cgttagcagg	cgcgtatcca	acctacgcca	caaactgggc	cgacgaggcag	420
gtgttacagg	ccaggaacat	aggactgtgt	gcagcatccct	tgactgggg	aagactggc	480
aaactgtcca	ttctccgaa	gaagcaatttg	aaaccttgcg	acacagtcat	gttctcggt	540
ggatctacat	tgtacactga	gaggagaaag	ctactgagga	gctggcactt	accctccgtt	600
ttccacactga	aaggtaaaca	atcctttacc	tgttagtgtcg	ataccatcg	atcatgtgaa	660
gggtacgttag	ttaagaaaaat	cactatgtgc	cccgccctgt	acggtaaaac	ggtaggttac	720
gcccgtgacgt	atcaccggg	gggattcccta	gtgtgcaaga	ccacagacac	tgtcaaaagg	780
gaaaaggctt	cattccctgt	atggcactac	gtccccctcaa	ccatctgtga	tcaaattgact	840
ggcataacttag	cgaccgacgt	cacaccggag	gacgcacaga	agtgtttagt	gggatttgaat	900
caggaggatag	ttgtgaacacg	aagaacacag	cgaaacacta	acacgatgaa	gaactatctg	960
cttcccgatgg	tggccgtcgc	atttagcaag	tgggggggg	tcaaatgtg	agaccttgat	1020
gatgaaaaac	ctttgggtgt	ccgaggaggag	tcacttactt	gctgtgtgtt	gtggccatt	1080
aaaacggagga	agatggcacac	catgtacaag	aaaccagaca	cccagacaat	agtgaagggt	1140
ccttcaggatg	ttaactcggt	cgtcatccc	aggctatgg	ctacaggct	cgcaatccc	1200
gtcagatcac	gtatthaagat	gtttttggcc	agaaggatgtt	aggcagggtt	aataccctgt	1260
ctcgacgcgt	cgtcaggccag	ggatgtctgaa	caaggaggaga	aggagggtt	ggaggccgag	1320
ctgacttagag	aaggcttacc	acccttcgtc	ccatccgcgc	cgccggagac	gggaggctcg	1380
gacgtcgacg	ttgaagaact	agatgtatcac	gcgttgcac	gggtcgatgg	aacacctcg	1440
agcgcgttga	aagtcaaccgc	acagtcactac	gacgtactac	taggaattaa	cgtagttctg	1500

FIG.3B

tcccccgaga ccgtgctcaa gagctccaa tggccccc
 gtaaaaataa taacataa cggggggcc ggcgttacc
 aggtcctac taccatgg atcggccatt cgggtccctg
 aggccacta tggtgtaca cgaaggagg ttcgtaaaa
 gttcacggac cgtcgctgaa caccgacgag gaaactac
 actgacgcg agtacgttt cgacgttagt aaaaaatgt
 tcgggttgg taggtttttt ggaccatat aagactac
 gggctgaaga cggatcag gcaaggatcg tattattaag
 cgggcaaga aggagaactg cagggaaata tttaacgacg
 gggacaagta gggaaaacag tgactccatc ctgttaaac
 atcctatag tggacgagg tttcgcttgc cattccggta
 cttgttaaac ctggaggcaa agtgggtta tgcggagacc
 aatatgatgc agcttaagg gaacttcaac cacaacatct
 agtatcca gacgttgac ggtccagtc acggccatcg
 ggcaggatgc gcacgacca cccgtgcaac aaaccataa
 accaagccca agccaggaga catcggtta acatgttcc
 cagtggact accgtggaca cgaagtcatg acggcagcag
 aaagggttat acggcgtaag gcaagggtg aatgaaaatc
 gaggcacgtga atgtactgt gacggtgcact gaggataggc
 gggatcccc ggttaagggt cctatcaaac attccacagg
 gaaagaatggc aagaagaaca cggaaaaata atgaagggtg
 gtggacgtgt tcaggaaacaa agcgaacgtg tggggggc
 gacactggcg gatcaggatt gacaggcagg gatcaggatt
 gaggacagag ttactctcc agtggggcc ttgacatggaa
 gttgaccctgg acagtggcct gtttctgcc ccgtgttgt

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tgcacccctt agcaggagg 1560
 atatgacggg atatgacgg 1620
 tttgaggcgg agtttcaagg 1680
 ccatattgcc ccatattgac 1740
 gaaactata gaaactata 1800
 agctgaaaga agctgaaatc 1860
 agaggaaagg agaggaaagg 1920
 cgcctacgaa tccatggaaatt 1980
 tctgggtt tagtaggat 2040
 cccaaacacgat tccatggaaatt 2100
 cggggggaaag tgaaggaca 2160
 tgccgtggac ggtgtcgatc 2220
 ccttaattgtt ctcgtgtggc 2280
 ccaaggaaatcg ccaaggaaatcg 2340
 gcactgaagt atgtataaa 2340
 tgtctacgtt gcactacgg 2400
 tcataagacac cacaggacag 2460
 gaggtggc aaaggcgtg 2520
 catctcaggg ctcacccgc 2580
 ccttgtatgc ccctgggtcg 2640
 tggtgtggaa aacgctggcc 2700
 gtaactttac ggcacattg 2760
 ttgaaggacc ggttgggtcg 2820
 aaggcgtgtt gcctgtccctg 2880
 ccataattac agcatttaaag 2940
 ttgacatggaa ttgacatggaa 3000
 ccctgttattt cggaaacaac 3060

FIG.3C

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cactggata	acagacctgg	tggaaggatg	tatggattca	atgcccAAC	agctGCCagg	3120
cttggaaagcta	gacatacctt	cctgaagggg	cagtggcata	cggggAAAGCA	ggcaggTTATC	3180
gcaaaaaAGAA	aaatccAAAC	gcttttcgtg	ctggacaatg	taattCCAT	caaccGGCagg	3240
ctggccgcACG	ccctggggc	tgagttAAAG	gcagttaggt	tgagtggCTG	3300	
gtcaataaAG	taaggggta	ccacgtcctg	ctggtagtg	ggctttgcct	3360	
cgacggcagg	tcacttggtt	gtcacggctg	aatgtcacag	gCGCCGATAG	3420	
ctaaggTTAG	gactgcccc	tgacgcccgg	aggttcgact	tggcttttgt	3480	
acggaaattca	gaatccacca	ctaccaggAG	tgtgtcgacc	acgcccattGA	3540	
cttggggAG	atggctacgg	actgctaaaa	cccggggca	tcttgatgAG	3600	
tacggccgATA	aatcagcga	agccgttgtt	tcctccctaa	gcagaaaAGT	3660	
agaggtgtgc	gccccggattg	tgtcacccAGC	aatacagaAG	tgttctttgt	3720	
tttgacAAcG	gaaaggAGACC	ctctacgcta	caccaggatGA	ataccAAAGT	3780	
tatggccggAG	aagccatgca	cacggccggg	tgtgcaccat	cctacAGAGT	3840	
gacataggCCA	cgtgcacAGA	agcggctgtg	gttaacgcAG	ctaacggccc	3900	
ggggatggcg	tatgcaggGC	cgtggccgt	aaatggccgt	cagccTTAA	3960	
acaccaggTGG	gcacaattAA	tgcggctcgT	accgggtcAT	acccggTCAT	4020	
cgccctaatt	tctctgcccAC	gaaggggacc	gtgaatttggc	gcgaatttggc	4080	
cggccagtgg	ccggccgaAGT	tcacttgAGCA	gCGTAGCCAT	cccgctgtg	4140	
tccacaggAG	tgttcaggcGG	cggaaaggat	aatccctCAA	ccatctATTc	4200	
acagcaatGG	acgcccacGGA	cgctgacgtg	gcgaatggACA	cgctgtctAC	4260	
aagaaaaATCC	aggaaggccAT	accatctACT	gCAGAGACAA	aagtttggAG	4320	
gaggctgacCA	cagacttggGT	gactgaaAGC	agtgtctCAA	tgatgacGtg	4380	
tacagtacCA	ctgacgggtc	gctgtactcg	acggctgtgg	gcctggTGGG	4440	
gctattgata	tggcaggAGAT	tgacatagg	tgacatgggg	tcgttaAGGGC	4500	
atatgcctat	acgcgttggG	gagagtggcAC	cgggACAGCA	4560		
gattccggatt	catcaacacc	tactttGAAG	tggccAGAC	4620		

FIG.3D

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gcaaacgg	tgcggccct	taggtcacac	caagttaaaa	gcatgggtt	ttgctcatct	4680
ttccccccc	cggaaatcca	tgttagatggg	gtgcagaagg	taaagtgcga	gaaggttctc	4740
ctgttcgacc	cgaacctacc	ttcagtggtt	agtccgggg	agtatggcc	atctacgacg	4800
gaccactcag	atcggtcggt	acgaggggtt	gacttgact	ggaccacccg	ctcgcttcc	4860
actgccagg	ataccatgtc	gctaccagg	ttgcagtcgt	gtgacatcga	ctcgatctac	4920
gagccatgg	ctcccatagt	agtacgggt	gacgtacacc	ctgaacccgg	aggcatcgcg	4980
gacttgggg	cagatgtca	ccctgaaccc	ggagaccatg	tggacctcg	tggactcg	5040
cctccacgg	gcccgaagg	aggctgatac	cttgccccc	gccccgggt	gccccgggt	5100
ccggcgccga	gaaaggccgac	gcctgcccc	aggactgggt	ttaggaacaa	gctggcccttg	5160
acgttcggcg	actttgacga	gcacgggtc	gatgcgttgg	cctccggat	tactttcgg	5220
gacttcgacg	acgttcgacg	actggccgc	gccccgtgc	atatttctc	ctcgacact	5280
ggcagcggtac	attacaaca	aaaatccgtt	aggcaggaca	atctccagt	cgcacaactg	5340
gatgcccccc	aggaggagaa	aatgtacccg	ccaaaattgg	atactgagag	ggagaaaggctg	5400
ttgctgtgtga	aaatggagat	gcacccatcg	gaggctaata	agagtcgata	ccagtctcg	5460
aaagtggaga	acatggaaag	cacgggtgt	gacaggctca	catgggggc	cagattgtac	5520
acgggggggg	acgttaggg	cataccaaca	tacgggttc	ggtaccccg	ccccgtgtac	5580
tcccctacgg	tgatcgaaag	attctcaagg	cccgtgttag	caatcgccgc	gtgcaacgaa	5640
taccttatcca	gaaattaccc	acacggggcg	tcgtaccaga	taacagatga	atacgacgca	5700
tacttggaca	tggttgacgg	gtcggtatgt	tgcttggaca	gaggcgcatt	ctgccccgg	5760
aagctccgggt	gctacccggaa	acatcatcg	taccaccgg	cgactgtacg	cagtggccgtc	5820
ccgtcaccc	ttcagaacac	actacagaac	gtgcttagcg	ccgcccaccaa	gagaactgac	5880
aacgtcacgc	aaatggagaa	actaccacc	atggactcg	cagtgttcaa	cgtggagtg	5940
ttcaaggcgct	atgcctgctc	cggagaatat	tggagaagaat	atgctaaaca	acctatccgg	6000
ataaaccactg	agaacatcac	tacctatgt	accaaattga	aaggcccgaa	agttgtg	6060
ttgttcgctta	agacccacaa	cttgggttccg	ttcccatgg	ttcccatgg	cagattcacc	6120
gtcgacatga	aacgagatgt	caaagtca	aaacacacga	ccagggacga	aacacacaga	6180

FIG.3E

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aaagtccagg	taattcaagg	agcggaggcca	ttggcgaccg	cttacactgtg	cggcatccac	6240
agggaatttag	taaggagact	aatgtgcgtg	ttacgcccata	acgtgcacac	attgtttgat	6300
atgtcgccg	aaggacttga	cggatcatc	tccacccagg	agacccgggtt	6360	
ctagagacgg	acatttgcatc	gcctctcact	actccctggc	tcttacaggt	6420	
ttaatgtatcc	togaagatct	atccgacaaa	agccaggacg	tggacttgtat	6480	
tttggggaaa	tatccaggct	tcacacctacca	cgttcaagg	cgaggcagcc	6540	
atgaaatcgg	gcatgttct	gactttgttt	attaacactg	gcttcaatgt	6600	
agcagggttac	tggaggcagag	actcactgac	tccgcccgtg	cggccttcat	6660	
aacatcgttc	acggaggat	ctccgacaag	ctgatggcgg	cgggacgac	6720	
aacatggagg	tgaagatcat	tgacgctgtc	atggggaaa	gtcggtgggtc	6780	
ggattcatag	tttttgacag	cgtcacacag	accgcctgcc	cccacttaag	6840	
cgcctgttca	agttggtaa	gccgctaaca	gctgaaagaca	agcaggacga	6900	
cggcactga	gtgacgggt	tagcaaggtag	ttccggacag	gcttggggcc	6960	
gtggcactaa	catctaggta	tgaggtagag	ggctgcaaaa	cgaaactggag	7020	
accttggcga	ggggacattaa	ggcgtttaag	aaattggagag	gtatcctcat	7080	
gggggtccctaa	gattgggtcg	ttaatacaca	gaattctgtat	gacctctac	7140	
taggatccag	atccccggta	attaattgaa	ttacatccct	tggatcatag	7200	
ccgggtggcc	ccggccccgg	cgccccgtcc	ttggccgttg	cgcactattaa	7260	
cgtcgcccc	gacttccagg	cccaggcgtat	cgcccaactc	cggtggctcc	7320	
gacaatgaga	cagaacgcaa	ttgctctgc	taggcctccc	tttacggccg	7380	
aaccaaacc	aaggccaaaa	cgcagccaa	gaagatcaac	atcaggccgt	7440	
gaagaaagac	aagcaaggcc	acaagaagaa	ggaaaaaagg	taaatgcgt	7500	
catgaagatt	gaaaatgact	gtatctcg	aaagaatgtg	ccacagtaac	7560	
cagacatgtc	gggcacccgca	ctatcatggg	ccaggatgtt	ctggggccct	7620	
tcgcaatcgg	cgttatcctg	gtgctgttgt	cattggacttg	cggataag	7680	
tttagggtagg	caatggcatt	gataatgaa	aacagaaaaaa	gttagggtaa	7740	

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FIG.3F

gcaatggcat	ataaccataa	ctgtataact	tgttaacaag	cgcacaaga	cctggccaat	7800
tggcccgctg	gtccggctca	cggaaactcg	gggcaactca	tattgacaca	ttaattggca	7860
ataatttggaa	gcttacataa	gcttaattcg	acgaataatt	ggatttttat	tttattttgc	7920
aattggtt	taatattcc	aaaaaaa	aaaaaaa	aaaaaaa	aaaaaaa	7980
aaaaaaaa	aaaaaaaa	aaaaaaaa	aaaaaaaa	aaaaaaaa	aaaaaaaa	8010

FIG. 4A

Nucleotide sequence of pSFVlink

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gatggcggt	gtgtgacata	cacgaccca	aaagattttg	ttccagctcc	tgcaccctcc
gctacgagg	agattAACCA	cccacgatgg	ccgcCAAAGT	gtatgttggat	attgaggcgtg
acagccatt	catcaagtct	ttgcggagg	catttcCGTC	gttcgggggtg	gagtcattgtc
aggtcacacc	aaatgaccat	gcaaATGCCA	gagcatTTTC	gcacctggct	accAAATTGA
tcggcaggaa	gactgacaaa	gacacactca	tcttggatAT	cggcagtggc	ccttcaggaa
gaatgtgtc	tacggcacaa	taccaCTGCG	tatGCCCTAT	gcccggcga	gaagacCCCG
aaaggctcga	tagctacgca	aagaAAACTGG	cagcggcCTC	cggaaagggtg	ctggatAGAG
agatcgagg	aaaaatcacc	gaccTGcaga	ccgtcatGGC	tacggcagac	gtctgaatCTC
ctacccTTG	cctgcataca	gacgtcacgt	gtcgtacGGC	agccggaaGTg	gcccgtataAC
aggacgtgt	tgctgtacat	gcacAAACAT	cgcTGtacca	tcaggcgatg	aaagggtgtca
gaacggcgta	ttggatttggg	tttgacacca	ccccgtttat	gtttgacggg	ctagcaggcg
cgtatccaa	ctacggccaca	aactggccc	cctccggatt	gttacaggcc	aggaacatAG
gactgtgtc	agcatccTTG	actggggaa	gactcggcaa	actgtccatt	ctccgcaaga
agcaattgaa	accttgcgac	acagtcatgt	tctcggtagg	atctacatgt	tacactgaga
gcagaaggct	actggaggac	tggcacttac	cctccggatt	ccacctgaaa	gttacggatTT
ccttacctg	taggtgcgat	accatgttat	catgtggaaa	gtacgttagt	aagaaaatca
ctatgtgcc	cggcctgtac	ggtaAAACGG	taggtacGC	cgtgacgtat	cacggggagg
gattccTAGT	gtgcaaggacc	acagacactg	tcaaaggaga	aagagtctca	ttccctgtat
gcacccTAGT	cccctcaACC	atctgtgatc	aaatgactgg	catactagtg	accgacgtca
caccggaggaa	cgcacAGGAA	ttgtttagtgg	gattgaatca	gaggatagt	gtgaacggaa
gaacacAGCG	aaacactaac	acgatgaaAGA	actatctgtc	tccgatttg	gccgtcgcat
ttagcaaggat	ggcgaggggaa	tacaaggcAG	accttgtatga	tgaaaaacct	ctgggtgtc
gagagaggTC	acttacttgc	ttgctgtttgt	gggcatttaa	aacgagggaa	atgcacacca
tgtacaaggaa	accagacacc	cagacaatAG	tgaagggtgcc	ttcaggatTT	aactcgTTG

FIG. 4B

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tcatcccgag	cctatggtct	acaggcctcg	caatcccagt	cagatcacgc	attaagatgc	1500
tttgtggcaa	gaagaccaaag	cgaggatcaa	tacctgttct	cgacggctcg	ttagccaggg	1560
atgctgaaca	agaggagaag	gagagggttgg	aggccggagct	gactaggagaa	gccttaccac	1620
ccctcgtc	catcgcccg	gccccgggg	gatgtcgatcg	cgtcgacgtt	gaagaactag	1680
agtatcacgc	agggtcgagg	gtcggtggaaa	cacctcgccag	cgcgttgaaa	gtcaccggcac	1740
agccgaacga	cgtactacta	ggaaattacg	tagttctgtc	cccgagacc	gtgctcaaga	1800
gctccaaagt	ggcccccgtg	caccctctag	cagaggcagg	ggtcctacta	gaaaataata	1860
ggggggccgg	cgttacacag	gtcgacggat	atgacggcag	ccatgtggat	acacataaacg	1920
cggccattcc	ggtcccctgag	tttcaaggctt	tgaggcggagg	cgccactatcg	gtgtacaacg	1980
aaaggaggat	cgtcaacagg	aaactatacc	atattccgt	tcacggaccg	tcgctgaaca	2040
ccgacgaggaa	gaactacggag	aaagtcaag	ctgaaaagaac	tgacggccgg	tacgtgttgc	2100
acgttagataa	aaaatgtgc	gtcaaggagag	aggaaggcgtc	gggttggatg	ttggggggag	2160
agctaaccaa	ccccccgttc	catgaatttcg	cctacgaaagg	gctgaagatc	aggccgtcg	2220
caccatataa	gactacagta	gtaggaggct	ttggggttcc	gggatcaggc	aagtctgtca	2280
ttatthaaggag	cctcggtgacc	aaacacgatc	tggtcaccag	cggcaagaag	gagaactggc	2340
aggaaaatagt	taacgacgtg	aagaaggcacc	ggggaaaggg	gacaaggtagg	gaaaacagtg	2400
actccatctt	gctaaacggg	tgtcgctgtg	ccgtggacat	cctatatgtg	gacgaggctt	2460
tcgcttgcca	ttccgggtact	taatgtct	tgttaaacct	tatgatgcag	cggggaaagg	2520
tggtgttatg	cggagacccc	ctgtcgcc	ttaaaggat	tatccaga	cttaagggttg	2580
acttcaacca	caacatctgc	actgaagttat	gtcataaaag	tatccaga	cggtggactac	2640
gtcccgatcac	ggccatcggt	tctacgttgc	taatgggg	caagatgcgc	caagcccaag	2700
cgtgcaacaa	accataatc	atagacacca	actacggagg	caaggagac	ccaggagaca	2760
tcgtgttaac	atgcttccga	ggctggccaa	caggacagac	gttggactac	cgtggaca	2820
aagtcatgac	aggaggcagca	tctcaggggcc	aggcgttgca	agggtatac	gccgttaaggc	2880
agaagggtgaa	tgaaaatccc	ttgttatggcc	atgataggctg	gcacgttgaa	gtactgtgt	2940
cgcgcactgaa	ggataggctg	gtgtggaaaaa	cgatccctgg	cgatcccccgg	attaaggttcc	3000

FIG. 4C

tttatcaaaat tccacagggta aactttacgg ccacatttggga agaaatggcaa gaagaacacg 3060
 aaaaaataat gaagggtgatt gaagggaccgg ctggccctgt ggcgcgttc cagaacaagg 3120
 cgaacgtgtg ttggcgaaa agccctggc ctgtccttgg cactgcccgg atcagatttg 3180
 cagcaggacc tggtggcatt tgacccaagg catttaaggg ggcacagggct tactctccag 3240
 tggcggctt gaatggaaatt tgaccaagg actatggagt ggcacggctgt 3300
 ttctggccc gaagggtgtcc ctgttacg agaaacaacc cttgggataac agacctgggtg 3360
 tggattcaat gccgaacacg ctggccaggct cttgggataga cttgggatggc 3420
 gtggcatacg ggcaaggcagg cgttatcgc ggcacggctgt 3480
 tggattcaat attccatca accggcaggct ggcgcacggcc 3540
 ggacaaatgtt ggtttaaggc agtagggtgtt ggcgcacggcc 3600
 ggtacaaatgtt ggttagtgtt tacaaacctgg cttggctcg 3660
 acgtcctgtc ggcgatagggt gctacgaccc agttttagga ctggccggctg 3720
 tggcacaggc tggcacaggc ggcgatagggtt ggcgcaccc 3780
 caccgctgaa gttcgacttg gtccttgtga acattcacac 3840
 acggccggcag tgtcgaccac gccatgaagg tgcatgtgtt 3900
 accaggcgtg cgggggcatc tgatgagag ctacggata cggccgataaa 3960
 tgctaaacc ctttttttc agaaaggttt cgtctgcaag agtgttgcgc 4020
 tcaccagca accaaggctg tctccaactt tgcccaactt 4080
 ctacgctaca ctttttttc tacagatgaa tgccgtgtta tgccggagaa 4140
 cggccgggtg cggctgtgtt accaaggctg agaggaggaga catagccacg 4200
 tcaccagca tacagaaggc aacggccgtg gactgttagg ggtatggcgta 4260
 ctacgctaca cccatcc tacagatgta gacccatcc accaggggcc 4320
 cggccgggtg taacgcgtc aacggccgtg gggcgtttaagg acgctgttagc 4380
 cggctgtgtt atggccgtca gcctttaagg gggcgtttaagg ggtatggcgta 4440
 cggccgggtg cggctgtgtt cggccatcc cttggccatcc cggcgttcatcc 4500
 ctgaaggcggc aggggaccgc gaaattggccg ggcgcgttgc 4560
 acagactgtc actggcaggc gttggccatcc cttggccatcc 4550
 gaagagatag gctgcagca tccctcaacc atctattcac agcaatggac 4550
 ctgacgtgac catctactgc gaaaatccag gtttggagaa 4560

FIG.4D

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acatgaggac	ggctgtggag	tggctcaatg	atgacgttggaa	gctgaccacaca	gacttgggtga	4620
gaggcacccc	ggacaggcaggc	ctggtggttc	gtaaggggcta	cagtaccact	gacgggttcgc	4680
tgtactcgta	cttttgaagggt	acgaaaattca	accagggttgtc	tattgatgtgc	gcagagatac	4740
tgacgttggtg	gcccaggactg	caaggggcaa	acgaacagat	atgccataac	gcgcgtggcg	4800
aaacaatggaa	caacatcaga	tccaaatgtc	cggtgtaaacga	tcccgattca	tcaacaccc	4860
ccaggacagt	gcccgtgcgt	tgccggctacg	caatgacagc	agaacggatc	gcccccccta	4920
ggtcacacca	gtttaaaggc	atggttggtt	gctcatcttt	tccctcccg	aaataccatg	4980
tagatgggtt	gcagaaggta	aagtggagaa	aggttctccct	gttcgaccgg	acggtagctt	5040
cagtggtag	tccggggaaag	tatggccat	ctacgacgga	ccactcagat	cggtcgttac	5100
gagggtttag	cttggactgg	accaccgact	cgtcttccac	tgccaggcgat	accatgtcgcc	5160
tacccaggtt	gcagttcggt	gacatcgact	cgatctacga	gccaaatggct	cccatagtag	5220
tgacggctga	cgtacacccct	gacccggcag	gcatggggaa	cctggggca	gatgtgcac	5280
ctgaaccggc	agaccatgtg	gacctcgaga	accggattcc	tccaccggcgc	ccgaaggagg	5340
ctgcataacct	tgcctccggc	gcggcgaggc	gaccgggtgcc	ggcgccgaga	aagccgacgc	5400
ctggcccaag	gactgggttt	aggaacaaggc	tgcctttgac	gttcggcgac	tttgcgaggc	5460
acggaggcga	tgcgttggcc	tccgggattta	cttccggaga	cttcgacgac	gtccctggcgc	5520
tagggccggc	gggtgcataat	attttcctct	cggacactgg	cagcggacat	ttacaacaaa	5580
aatcccgtag	gagccacaat	ctcccgatgg	cacaactgg	tgggtccag	gaggggaaaa	5640
tgtacccggcc	aaaattggat	actggagggg	agaaggcttt	gctgctgttt	atgcagatgc	5700
acccatggaa	ggctaataag	agtcgatacc	agtctcgaa	agtggagaac	atgaaaaggca	5760
cgtgggttgg	caggctcaca	tggggggcca	gattgtacac	ggggggggac	gtaggccgca	5820
taccaacata	cggggtttcgg	taccccgcc	ccgtgtactc	ccctaccgtg	atcggaaat	5880
tctcaaggccc	cgtatgtagca	atcgcagcgt	cttatccaga	aattacccaa	5940	
cagtgggttc	gtaccagata	acagatgaat	cttgacatg	cttgacatg	gttgcgggt	6000
cggataggttg	tttggacaga	gcccggcgaa	gctccgggtgc	tacccggaaac	6060	
atcatggta	ccaccaggcc	actgtacgca	gtgcgggtccc	gtcacccctt	cagaacacac	6120

FIG.4E

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tacagaacgt	gcttagcgcc	gccaccaa	gaaactgcaa	cgtcacgcaa	atgcgagaac	6180
tacccaccat	ggactcgcca	gtgttcaacg	tggagtgctt	caaggctat	gcctgctccg	6240
gagaatatg	ggaagaat	ctaacaac	ctatccggat	aaccactgag	aacatcacta	6300
cctatgtac	caaattgaaa	ggcccggaaag	ctgctgcctt	gttcgctaag	accacaact	6360
tggttccgct	gcaggagggtt	cccatggaca	gattcacggt	cgacatgaaa	cgagatgtca	6420
aagtcaactc	aggacgaaa	cacacagg	aaagaccaa	agtccaggta	atccaagg	6480
cggagccatt	ggcgaccgct	tacctgtcg	gcattccacag	ggaatttagta	aggaggactaa	6540
atgctgttt	acggccctaac	gtgcacacat	tgttgtgat	gtcggccgaa	gactttgacg	6600
cgatcatcg	ctctcaactc	caccagg	accggttct	agagacggac	attgcatcat	6660
tcgacaaaag	ccaggacgac	tccttggctc	ttacaggttt	aatgatcctc	gaagatctag	6720
gggtggatca	gtacctgctg	gacttgatcg	aggcaggcctt	tggggaaata	tccagctgtc	6780
acctaccaac	tggcacg	tcaagg	gagctatgtat	gaaatcgccc	atgtttctga	6840
cttgttttat	taacactgtt	ttgaacatca	ccatagcaag	cagggtaactg	gaggcaggac	6900
tcactgactc	cgcctgtgg	gccttcatcg	gcgacgacaa	catcgttcac	ggagtgatct	6960
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cgttaaacagg	ggggaaaaaa	cccccatatt	cgtgggtcaa	aggactgagt	gacggaggta	7200
gcaaaatggtt	ctgcaaaatgt	atcctatag	tttgggggg	ggcaactaaca	tctaggatg	7260
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gccccgtctt	ggccgttgca	ggcccaactccg	ttgttcccg	tcgttcccg	cttccaggcc	7560
caggcgtatgc	agcaactcat	cagcgcgtat	aatgggttga	caatggaca	gaacgcaatt	7620
gctccctgtcta	ggccctccaa	accaaaagacaa	ccaaacaaa	gccgaaaaacg	7680	

FIG.4F

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cagcccaaga	agatcaacgg	aaaaacggcg	cagcaaaaaga	agaaaggacaa	gcaagccgac	7740
aagaagaaga	agaaaaccgg	aaaaaggagaa	agaatgtgca	tgaaggattga	aaatgactgt	7800
atcttcgtat	ggggcttagcc	acagtaacgt	agtgtttcca	gacatgtcgg	gcacccgact	7860
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gaaactcggg	gcaactcata	ttgacacatt	aattggcaat	aatttggaaagc	ttacataaagc	8160
ttaattcgcac	gaataattgg	attttttttt	tattttgcaa	ttggttttta	atattccaa	8220
aaaaaaaaaa	aaaaaaaaaa	aaaaaaaaaa	aaaaaaaaaa	aaaaaaaaaa	aaaaaaaaaa	8280
aaaaaaaaaaact	agtctgcatt	aatgaatcgg	ccaaacggcg	gggagagggcg	gtttgcgtat	8340
tggggcgtct	tccgcttcct	cgctcaactga	ctcgctgccc	tcggtcgttc	ggctgcggcg	8400
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gtgggtggct	aactacggct	acactagaag	gacagtattt	ggtatctggt	ctctgttggaa	9000
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tagcgggtgg	tttttggttt	gcaaggagca	gattacggcc	agaaaaaaag	gatctcaaga	9120
agatccttttg	atcttttcta	cgggtctga	cgctcagtgg	aacggaaaact	cacgttaagg	9180
gattttggct	attagattat	caaaaaggat	cttcacccatg	atcccttttaa	attaaaaatg	9240

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FIG.4G

aagttttaaa	tcaatctaaa	gtatatatga	gtaaacttgg	tctgacagg	accaatgttt	9300
aatcagttag	gcacccatct	cagcgatctg	tctatttcgt	tcatccatag	ttgcctgtact	9360
ccccgtcggt	tagataacta	cgatacggg	gggcttacca	tctggcccca	gtgcgtcaat	9420
gataccggaa	gacccacgct	caccggctcc	agatttatca	gcaataaaccc	agccaggccgg	9480
aaggggcgag	cgcagaagtg	gtcctgcaac	tttatccggc	tccatccagg	ctattaatttg	9540
ttggccggaa	gcttaggtaa	gtatttcgcc	agttaatagt	ttggccaacy	ttgttgcctat	9600
tgctacaggc	atcggttgt	cacgctcgtc	gtttggatg	gcttcattca	gctcggtttc	9660
ccAACGATCA	AGGCAGTTA	CATGATCCCC	CATGTTGTGC	AaaaaaAGCGG	Ttagctccct	9720
cggtcctccg	atcggtgtca	gaagtaaagt	ggccggcagg	ttatcactca	ttgttatggc	9780
agcactgcatt	aattcttta	ctgtcatgcc	atccgttaaga	tgctttctg	tgactgggtga	9840
gtactcaacc	aagtcatct	gagaatagtg	tatggggcga	ccgagttgct	cttggccggc	9900
gtcaaatacgg	gataataccg	cggcacatag	cagaacttta	aaagtgtcta	tcattgaaaa	9960
acgttctcg	ggggcggaaaac	tctcaaggat	cttacgcgtg	tttagatcca	gttcgatgtt	10020
accactctgt	gcacccaaact	gatcttcaggc	atcttttact	ttcaccaggc	tttcgtgggtt	10080
agcaaaaaaca	ggaaaggcaa	atggccaaa	aaaggaaata	agggcgacac	ggaaatgttg	10140
aatactcata	ctcttcctt	ttcaatatta	ttgaagcatt	tatcagggtt	attgtctcat	10200
gaggggatac	atatttgaat	gtattttagaa	aaataaaacaa	ataggggttc	cgcgcacatt	10260
tccccggaaaa	gtggccacctg	acgtcttaaga	aaccattatt	atcatgacat	taactataa	10320
aaataggcgt	atcacgggc	ctttcgtct	cggcggtttc	ggtgatgacg	gtgaaaaacct	10380
ctgacacatg	cagctccgg	agacggtcac	agcttcgttc	taaggggatg	ccgggaggcag	10440
acaaggccgt	cagggccgt	caggggtgt	tggcgggtgt	cggggctggc	ttaaactatgc	10500
ggcatcaggag	cagattgtac	tgagggtgca	ccataatcgac	gctctccctt	atgcgactcc	10560
tgcatttagga	agcagccag	tactaggttg	aggccgttga	gcaccggccgc	cgcaaggaat	10620
ggtgtcatgca	aggagatggc	gccccaaacagt	ccccggggca	cggggccctgc	caccatacc	10680
acggccggaaac	aaggcgtcat	gagccggaaag	gatctcccc	atcgggtatg	10740	
tcggcgatata	aggcgccacgc	aaccggcacct	tgatggccgg	cacgatgcgt	10800	

ccggcgtaga ggatctggct agcgatgacc ctgctgattt gttcgctgac catttcggg 10860
gtgcggaaacg gcgttaccag aaactcagaa ggttctgtcca accaaaccga ctctgacggc 10920
agtttacgag agagatgata gggtctgtttt cagtaaggcca gatgctacac aattaggctt 10980
gtacatatgt tcgttagaac acggctacaa ttaatacata accttatgtt tcatacacat 11040
acgatttagg tgacactata 11060

FIG.4H

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Construction of pSFVlink

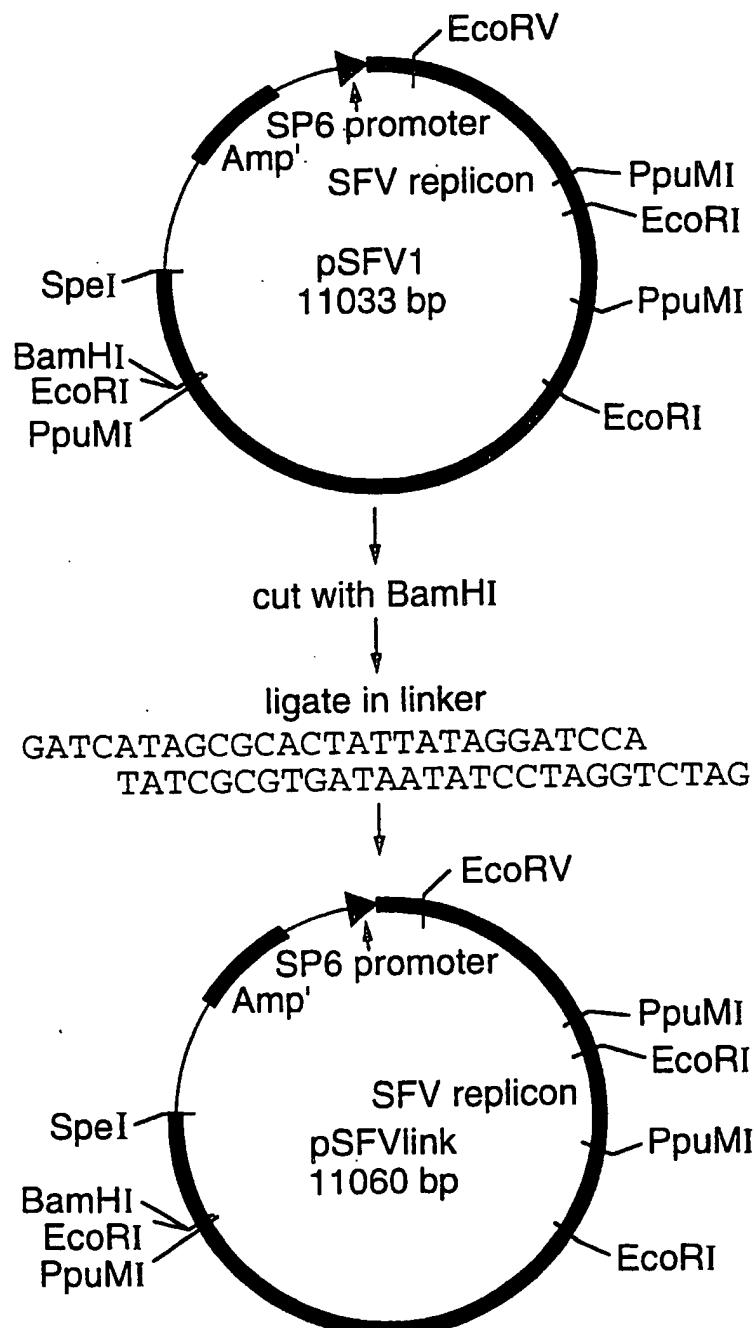


FIG.5

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FIG.6A

Nucleotide Sequence of pMP76

atggctatt	ggccatttgca	tacgttgtat	cstatatcata	atatgtacat	ttatattggc	60
tcatgtccaa	tatgaccggcc	atgttgtgacat	tgattattga	ctagttatta	atagtaatca	120
attacgggggt	catttagttca	tagcccatat	atggaggatcc	gcgttacata	acttacggta	180
aatggcccgcc	ctcggtgacccg	cccacgacc	cccgccccatt	gacgtcaata	atgacgtatg	240
ttcccatatgt	aacggccaaata	gggactttcc	attgacgtca	atgggtggag	tatttacggt	300
aaactgccc	cttggcaggta	catcaagggt	atcatatgcc	aagtccggcc	cctattgacg	360
tcaaatgacgg	taaatggccc	gcctggcatt	atgcccaggta	catgaccccta	cgggactttc	420
ctacttggca	gtacatctac	gtatttagtca	tcgcttattac	catggtgatg	cggttttggc	480
agtacaccaa	tggggcgttgg	actcacggg	atttccaagg	ctccacccca	ctccacccca	540
ttgacgtcaa	tgggagtttg	ttttggcacc	ggactttcca	aaatgtcgt	aaatgtcgt	600
ataaacccgc	cccggttgacg	caaatggcg	gttaggggtgt	gtcttatataa	gtcttatataa	660
gcagagactcg	tttagtgaac	cgtatgggg	atgttgtgaca	tacacgacgc	aaaagattt	720
tgttccagct	cctgccacct	cgcgtacgg	agagatthaac	cacccacgat	ggccggccaaa	780
gtgcatttg	atatttgggc	tgacagccc	ttcatcaagt	cttgcagaa	ggcatttccg	840
tcgtttcgagg	tggagttcatt	gcaggtcaca	ccaaatgacc	atgcaaatgc	cagaggatt	900
tcgcacatgg	ctaccaaatt	gatcgaggcag	gagactgaca	aagacacact	catcttggat	960
atcggcagtg	cgccttccag	gagaatgtatg	tctacggaca	aataccactg	cgtatgcct	1020
atgcggcagg	cagaaggaccc	cgaaaaggctc	gatagttctag	caaagaaact	ggcaggggcc	1080
tccgggaaagg	tgtctggatag	agagatcgca	ggaaaaaatca	ccgaccctgca	gaccgtcat	1140
gctacgcccag	acgctgaatc	ttcttacttt	tgccttgccata	cagacgtcac	gtgtcgtag	1200
gcagccgaaag	tggccgtata	ccaggacgtg	tatgttgtac	atgcaccaac	atcgctgtac	1260
catcaggcga	tgaaagggtgt	cagaacggcg	tattggattg	ggtttgcac	caccccggtt	1320
atgtttgacg	cgcgtatcca	acctacgcca	caaactggc	cgacgagcag	1380	

FIG. 6B

gtgttacagg ccaggaacat aggacttgt tgactgaggg aagactcgcc 1440
 aactgtcca ttctccgcaa gaagcaattg aacacctggc acacagtcat 1500
 gatatctacat tggacactga gaggagaag ctactgagga 1560
 ttccacacctga aaggtaaaca atccttacc tgttaggtgcg ataccatcgt 1620
 gggtagcttag ttaagaaaat cactatgtgc cccggctgt acgtaaaac 1680
 gccgttagt atcacggga gggattccta gtgttgcgaa ccacagacac 1740
 gaaaggactt cattccctgt atgcactac gacgcacaga agttgttagt 1800
 ggcatacttag cgaccgacgt cacacggag gaaacacacta acacgtgaa 1860
 cagaggatag ttgttgcgaa agaaacacag tggcgagggg aatacaaggc 1920
 cttcccgatttggccatttgc atttagcaag tcacttactt gctgctgctt 1980
 gatgaaaaac ctctgggtgt ccgaggaggg aaccaggaca cccagacaat 2040
 aaaacgagga agatggcacac catgtacaag agcctatggt ctacaggcct 2100
 cttcaggat ttaactcggt cgtcatccc gctttggcc aagaaggacca 2160
 gtcagatcac gcattaagat 9cttcgttcc aaggaggaga 219/39
 ctcgacggct cgtcaggccag accctcgcc cccatcgcc 2220
 ctgacttagag aagccttacc accctcgcc accgtatcac gcaaggatctac 2280
 gacgtcgacg ttgaagaact gagatgtgaa gacgtactac cggcgagac 2340
 agcgtgttga aagtccacccg acggccgaa cccatcgcc 2400
 tcggcgaga cctgtccaa gaggctcaag ggtcgttgg 2460
 gtggaaataa taacacataa cggggggcc tggcccttacc aggtcgacgg 2520
 agggttccatc taccatgtgg atcggccatt cgggtccctg 2580
 agcgccacta tggtgtacaa cggaaaggagg atatgacggc 2640
 gttcacggac cgtcgctgaa caccgacgag ttcgtcaaca 2700
 actgacggcg agtacgtttt cgtacgtatccatgg 2760
 tcgggttttgg gggctgtgaaga tcaggccgtc 2820
 aacgctaaccc agagctaaacc cgcctacgaa 2880
 gggctgtgaaga tgtaggttttggccat aagactacag 2940

FIG.6C

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cgggatcg	gcaagtctgc	tattattaag	agccctcgta	ccaaacacga	tctggtcacc	3000
aggggcaaga	aggagaactg	ccaggaata	gttaacgacg	tgaagaaggca	ccggggaaag	3060
gggacaagta	ggaaaaacag	tgactccatc	ctgctaaacg	ggtgtcgctg	tgcgtggac	3120
atccatatg	tggacgaggc	ttcgcttgc	cattccggta	cctaatggct	3180	
cttgttaaac	ctcgaggaa	agtgggttta	tgcgaggacc	cggatttttc	3240	
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agtatatcca	gacgttgcac	gchgcccagt	acggccatcg	gcactgaatg	tgtctacgtt	3360
ggcaaggatgc	gcacgaccaa	cccgtgcaac	aaacccataa	tcatagacac	cacaggacag	3420
accaaggcca	agccaggaga	catcggtta	acatgttcc	gaggctgggc	aaaggcagctg	3480
cagtggact	accgtggaca	cgaagtcatg	acaggcagg	catctcaggg	cctcaccgc	3540
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gtaaaattca	tgttatatgg	ggggggcaaa	gttttcaggg	tctactctgt	tttcgcttt	3780
tgtcccttgt	atcaccatgg	accctcatga	taattttgtt	tctttcaatt	tttcgttttt	3840
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tttctctaatt	cactttttt	tcaaggcaat	cagggtatat	tatatttgtt	ttcaggcacag	4020
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tttcttttat	ggttacaatg	atataactg	tttgagatga	ggataaaaata	ctctgagtcc	4200
aaaccgggcc	cctctgctaa	ccatgttcat	gcctttttct	tttccctaca	ggtcctata	4260
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ataatgaagg	tgattgaagg	accggctggc	cctgtggacg	cgttccaggaa	caaaggcgaac	4380
gttgttggg	cggaaaaggcct	ggtgccgtc	ctggacactg	cgggaaatcag	attgacagca	4440
gaggaggatgg	gcaccataat	tacagcattt	aaggaggaca	gagcttactc	tccagttgtt	4500

FIG.6D

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ggcttgaatg	aaatttgcac	caagtaactat	ggaggttgacc	tggacagtgg	cctgttttct	4560
gcccccaagg	tgtccctgtta	ttacgagaac	aaccactggg	ataacagacc	tggtggaaagg	4620
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tctgtacttgc	aaggtaacgaa	attcaaccag	gctgtatattg	gatactgacg	6000	
ttgtggccca	gactgcaaga	ggcaaaacgaa	tatacatgcc	ggggcgccgt	tatacatatgcc	6060

FIG.6E

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atggacaaca	ttagatccaa	atgtccggtg	aacgattccg	attcatcaac	acctcccagg	6120
acagtgcct	gcctgtgccg	ctacgcaatg	acaggagaac	ggatcgccg	cctttaggtca	6180
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acatacgccg	ttcggttaccc	cggcccggt	tactcccta	ccgtgtatcg	aagattctca	7140
agcccccgt	tagcaatcgc	agcgtgcaac	gaataacctat	ccagaaatata	ccaaacatggt	7200
gcgtcgtaacc	agataaacaga	tgaatacgcac	gcataacttgg	acatggttga	cgggtcggt	7260
agtgtgttgg	acagaggcgcac	attctggccg	tgcaaggctcc	ggtggttaccc	gaaacatcat	7320
gcgttaccacc	agcccgactgt	acgcgtgtcc	gccaaggctcc	ccatgttcaag	cacactacag	7380
aacgtgtcttag	cggccggccac	caaggaaac	tgcaaaatgtca	cgccaaatgctg	agaactacc	7440
accatggact	cggcaggatgtt	caacgtggag	tgctttcaagg	gctatggctg	ctccggagaa	7500
tattggaaag	aatatgtctaa	acaacccatc	ctgagaaacat	cactacctat	7560	
gtgaccacaaat	tggaaaggcccc	gaaaaggctgt	gccttgggtt	caacttgggt	7620	

FIG.6F

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ccgctgcagg	aggttcccat	ggacagattc	acggtcgaca	tgtcaaccgaga
actccaggaa	cgaaacacac	agagggaaa	cccääagtcc	aggtaattca
ccattggcga	ccgcttacct	gtcgccatc	cacagggaaat	actaaatgt
gtgttacgg	ctaactgtca	cacattttt	gatatgtcg	tagtaaggag
atcgcccttc	acttccatcc	aggagacccg	gttcttagaga	ccgaaggactt
aaaaggcagg	acgactctt	ggctttaca	gttttaatga	ggacatgtcg
gatcagtacc	tgttgactt	gatcgaggca	gctttgggg	atcattcgac
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tttattaaca	ctgttttga	catcacata	gcaaggagg	tcttaggggt
gactccgct	gtggggcctt	catcgccgac	gacaacatcg	aaatatccag
aagctgtatgg	cggagggtg	cggctcggt	gtcaacatgg	ctgttaccta
gtcatggcg	aaaaacccc	atattttgt	gggggatcca	ggggcatgtt
cagaccgct	gcgtgtttc	agaccctt	aaggccctgt	ttcaagggtt
acagctgaag	acaaggaggaa	cgaagacagg	cgacgagcac	tctggatgtt
tggttccggaa	caggctgg	ggccgaactg	gagggtggac	tagtttttga
gagggtctgca	aaagtatcc	cataggccatg	gccaccctgg	ttcaagggtt
aagaatttga	gaggacctgt	tataccctc	tacgggggtc	ttagtggatgtt
acagaattt	gattggatca	tagcgacta	ttataggatc	taacatctag
gaattacatc	cctacgcaa	cgttttacgg	ttataggatc	taatctttttt
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gatggcggaa	ctcatcaggcg	cgttaaatgc	ttataggatc	ttataggatc
tgcttaggcct	ccccaaaccaa	agaagaagaa	ttataggatc	ttataggatc
caagaagatc	aacggaaaaa	cgcaggagca	ttataggatc	ttataggatc
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gggtgtcagaa	aatctcggtt	ggtctgggg	ccttcgcaat	ctggcgctatc

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tttgtgttcac	tgcatttgg	ctccgcagat	aaggtagggt	aggcaatggc	attgatata	9240
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aaaaaaaaaa	aaaaaaaaaa	tttttttt	tttttttttt	tttttttttt	9540	
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cgcccttatcc	ggtaactatc	gtcttggatc	tttttttttt	tttttttttt	10740	

E/G.6G

FIG. 6H

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ggcaggcc	actggtaaca	ggatttagc	agcgaggat	gttaggggtg	ctacagagt	10800
cttgaagtgg	tggcctaact	acggctacac	tagaaggaca	gtatttgtt	tctgcgct	10860
gctgaaggca	gttaccttcg	gaaaaaggat	tggtagctct	tgatccggca	aacaaccac	10920
cgtggtagc	ggtggtttt	tgttttgaa	gcaggcaggat	acggcagaa	aaaaaggatc	10980
tcaagaagat	cctttgatct	tttctacggg	gtctgacgct	cagtggAACG	aaaactcag	11040
ttaaggatt	ttggtcata	aaggatcttc	accttagatcc	ttttaattta	ttttaattta	11100
aaaatgaagt	tttaatcaa	gattatcaa	acttggtctg	acagttacca	acagttacca	11160
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cgttgtgggg	aagatgggtg	atctgtatcc	tcaactcagc	aaaagttcg	tttattcaac	11460
aaaggccgg	tcggcgtaa	gctctgcccag	tggttacacc	tggttacacc	aatttaccaa	11520
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ccagtttagt	ctgaccatct	catctgttaac	atcatggca	acgctacctt	tgcccatgtt	12180
cagaaacaaac	tctggggcat	cgggcttccc	atacaatcga	tagattgtcg	cacctgattg	12240
cccgacattha	tcggcgaggccc	atttataccc	atataaatacc	gcattccatgt	ttggaaatttaa	12300

FIG.6I

tcggccctc gagcaaggacg tttccggtg aatatggctc ataacaccc ttgttattact 12360
gttatgtaa gcagacagtt ttatggttca tgatgatata tttttatctt gtgcaatgtt 12420
acatcagaga ttttagaca caacgtggct ttccccccc ccccccggct tgat 12474

CMV promoter 1 - 682
SFV replicon (before intron) 684 - 3678
Rabbit (-globin intron II 3679 - 4251
SFV replicon (after intron) 4252 - 9543
Hepatitis Delta virus ribozyme (antigenomic) 9544 - 9628
Kanamycin Gene 12342 - 11503
BamHI site for insertion of heterologous inserts 8677

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Subcloning of the SFV replicon

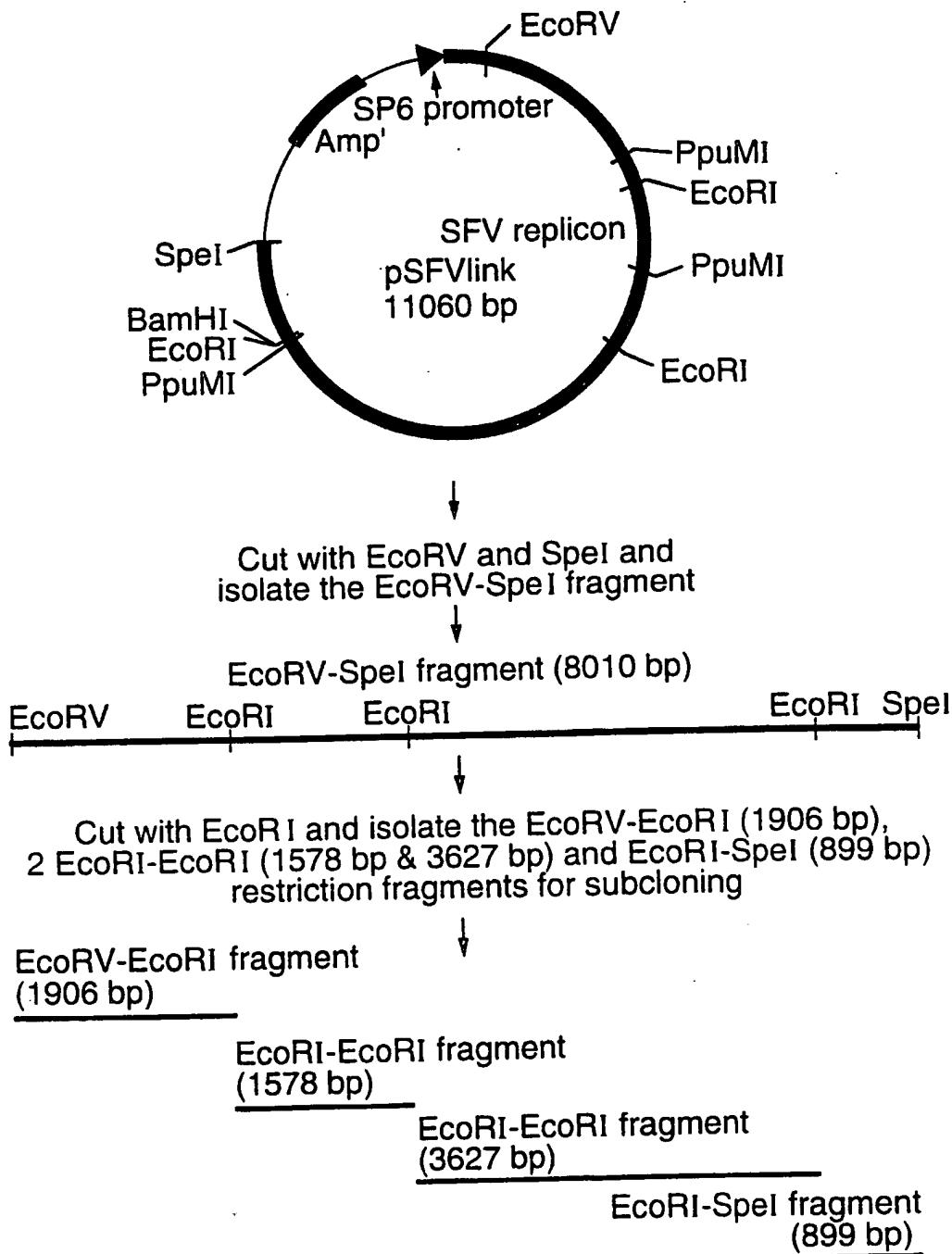


FIG.7

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Construction of pMP76

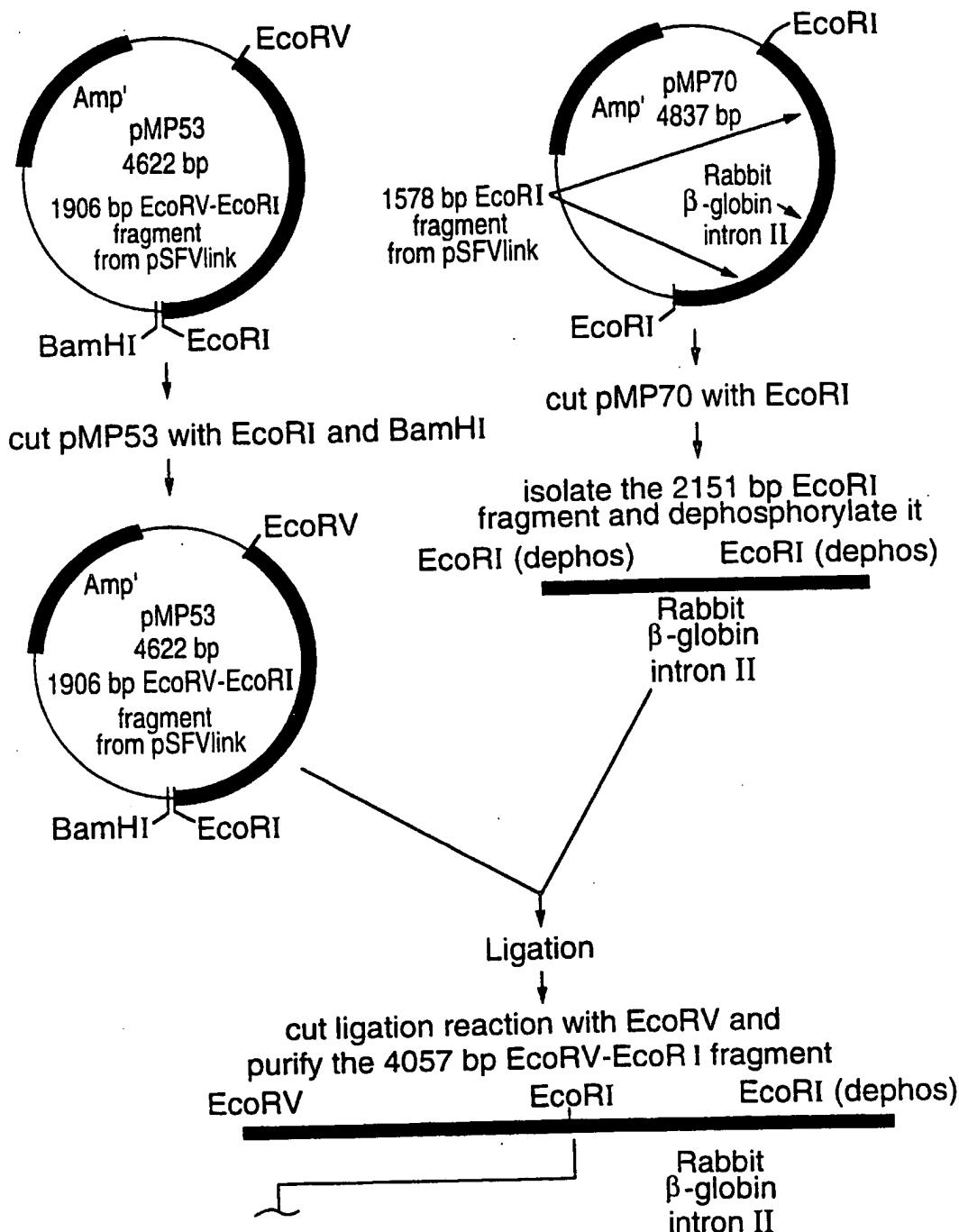


FIG.8A

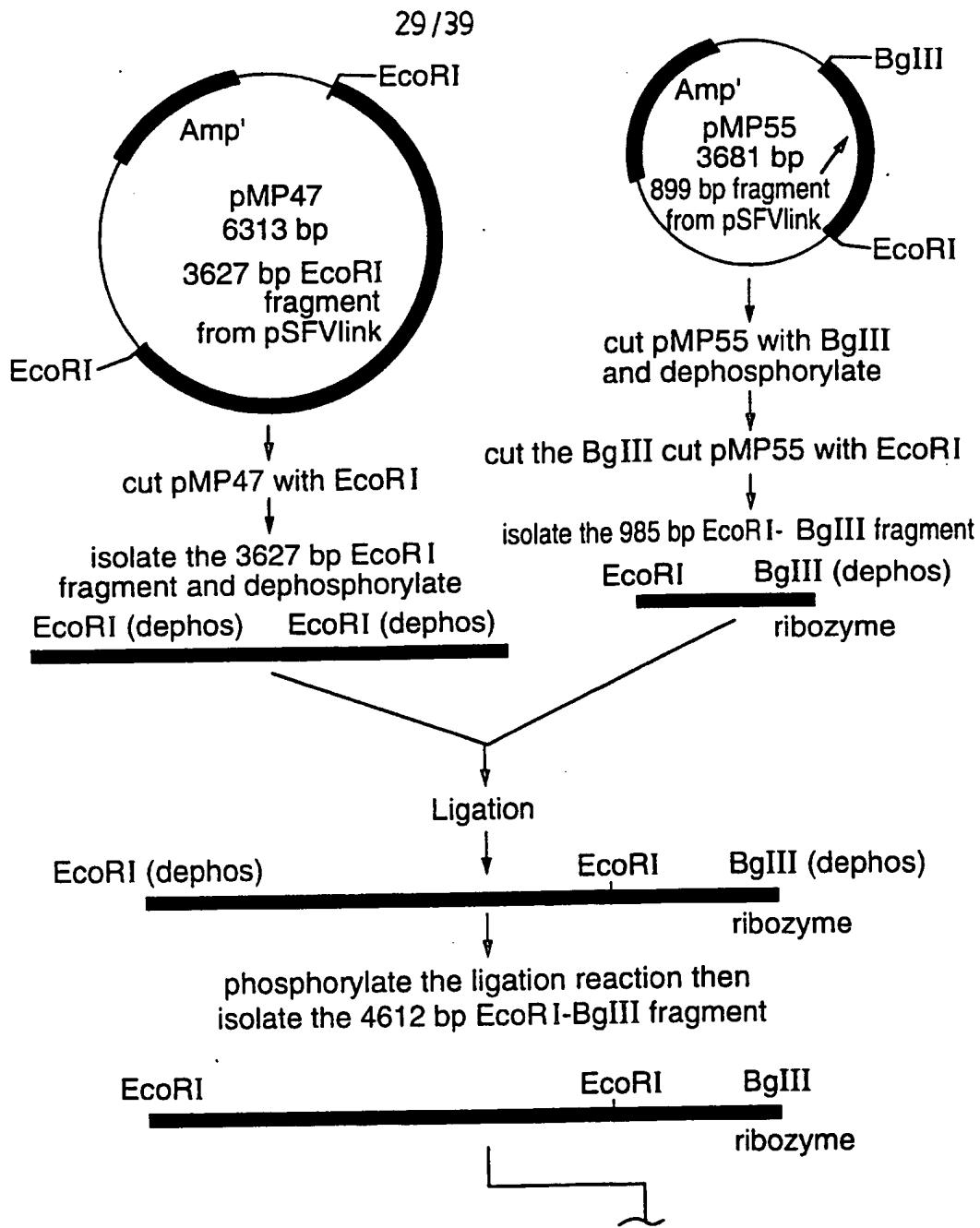


FIG.8B

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Construction of pMP76

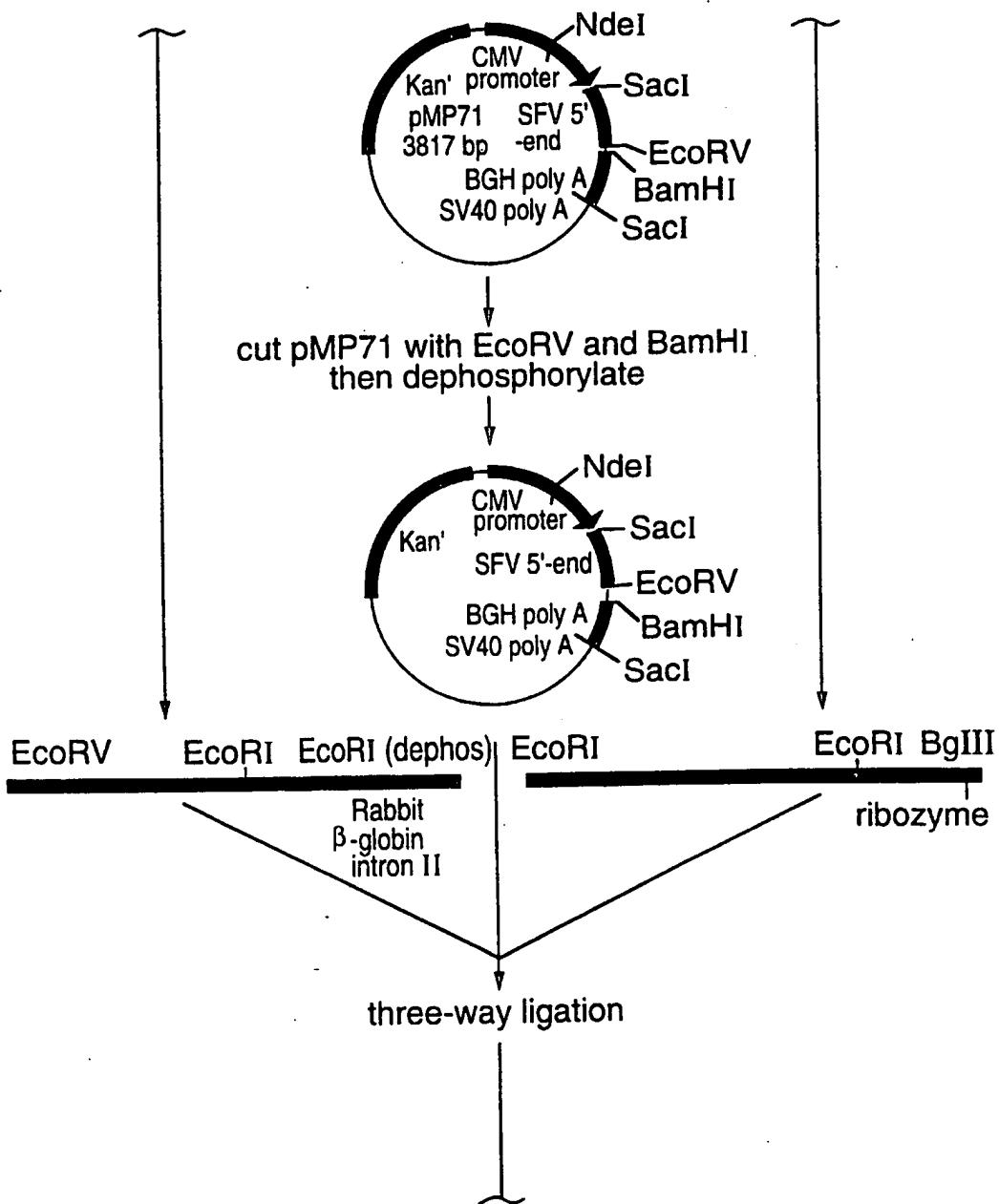


FIG.8C

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Construction of pMP76 (cont'd)

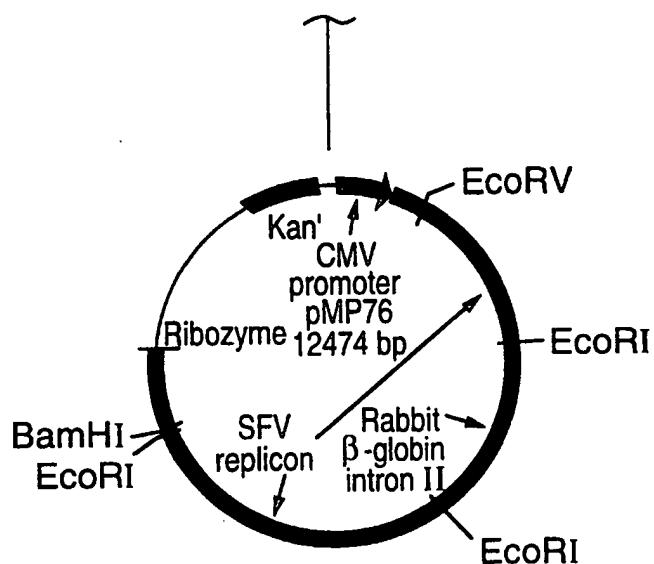


FIG.8D

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Construction of pMP53 & pMP54

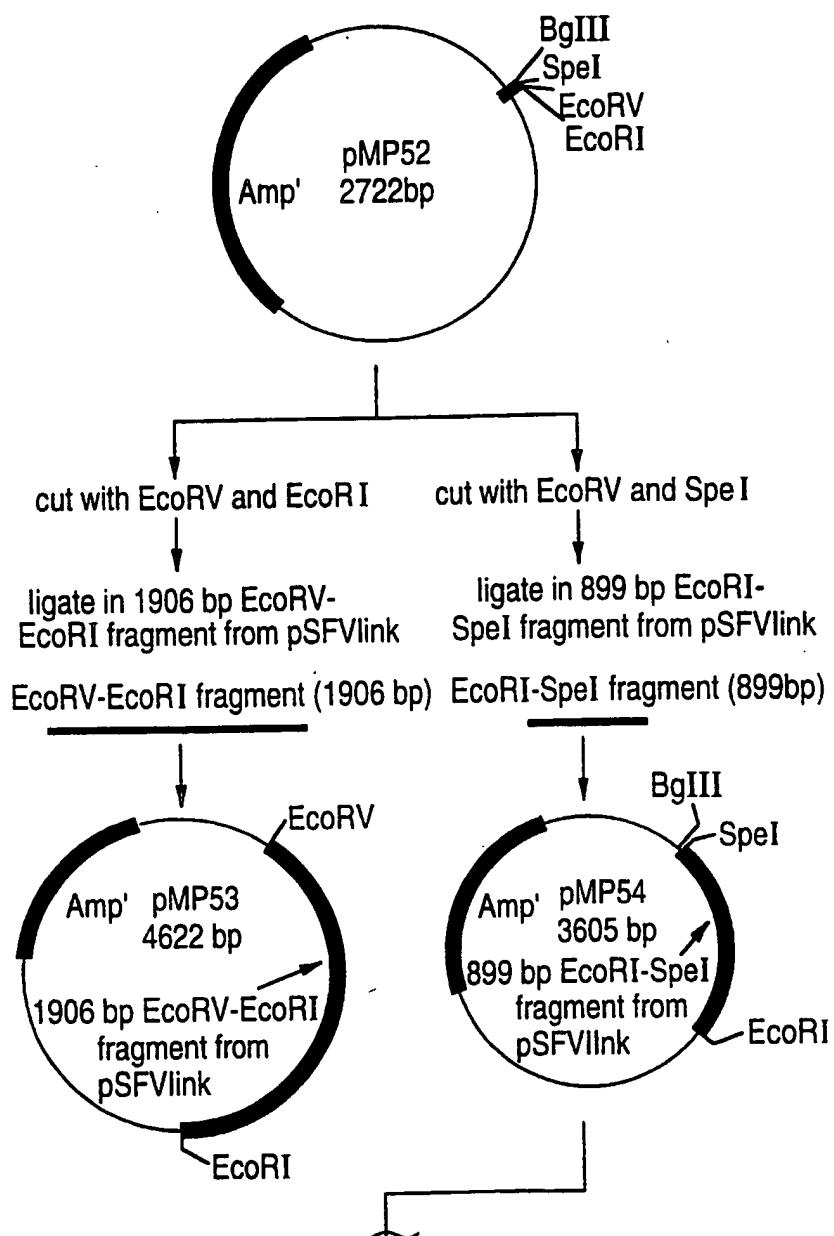
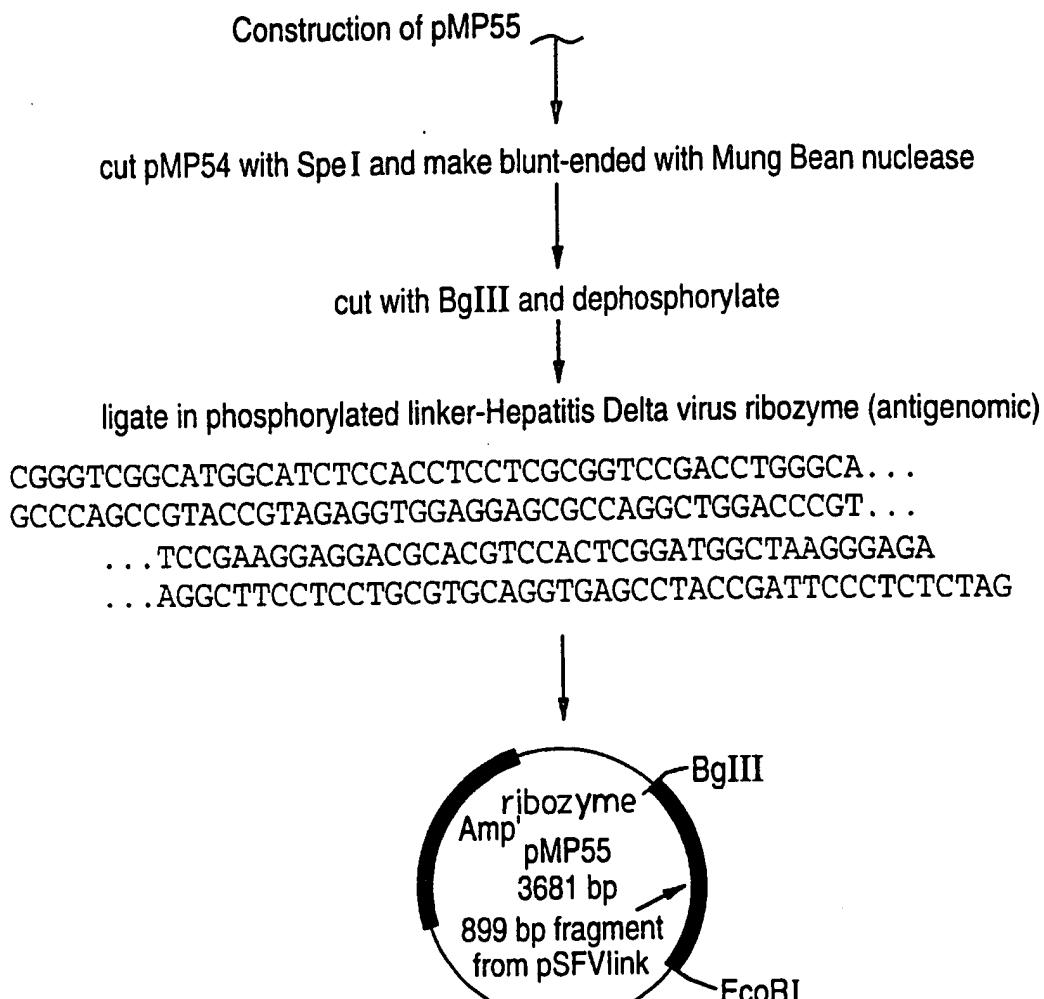


FIG.9A

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Construction of pMP52

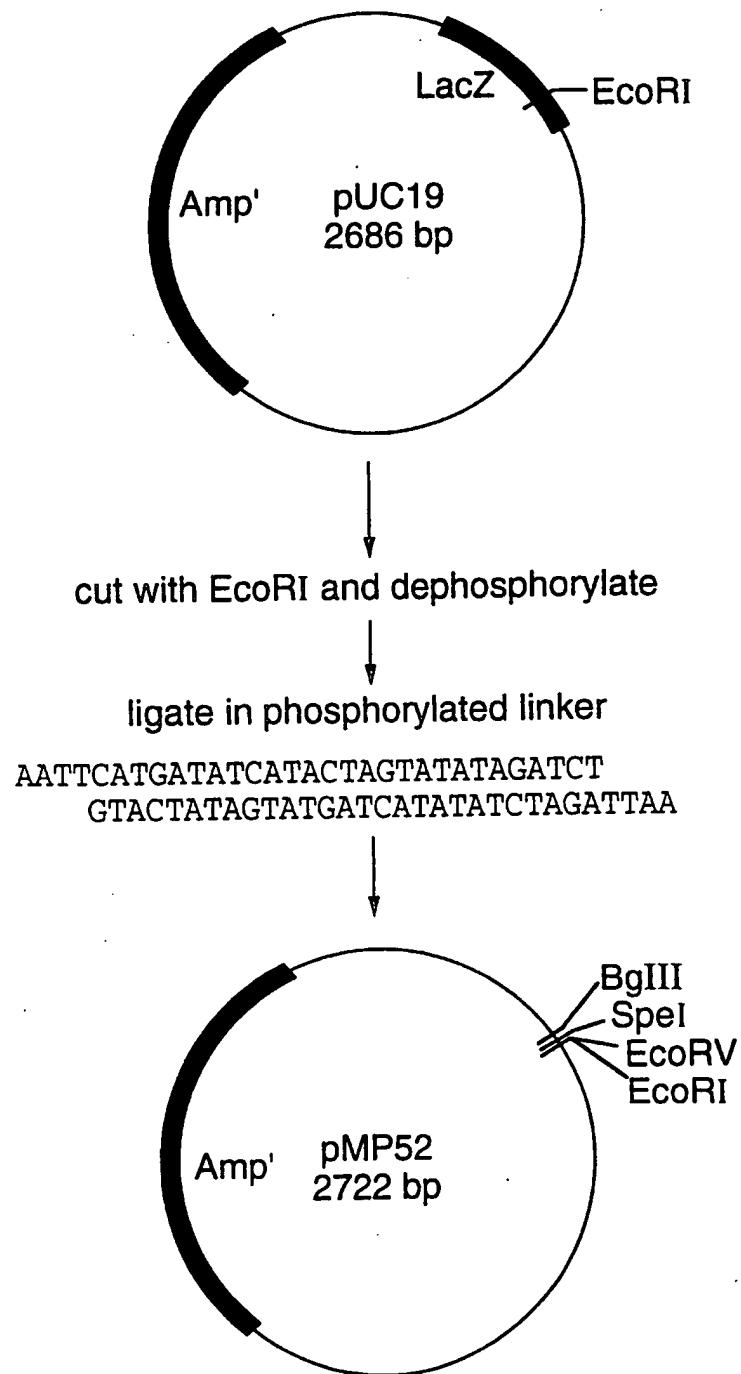


FIG.10

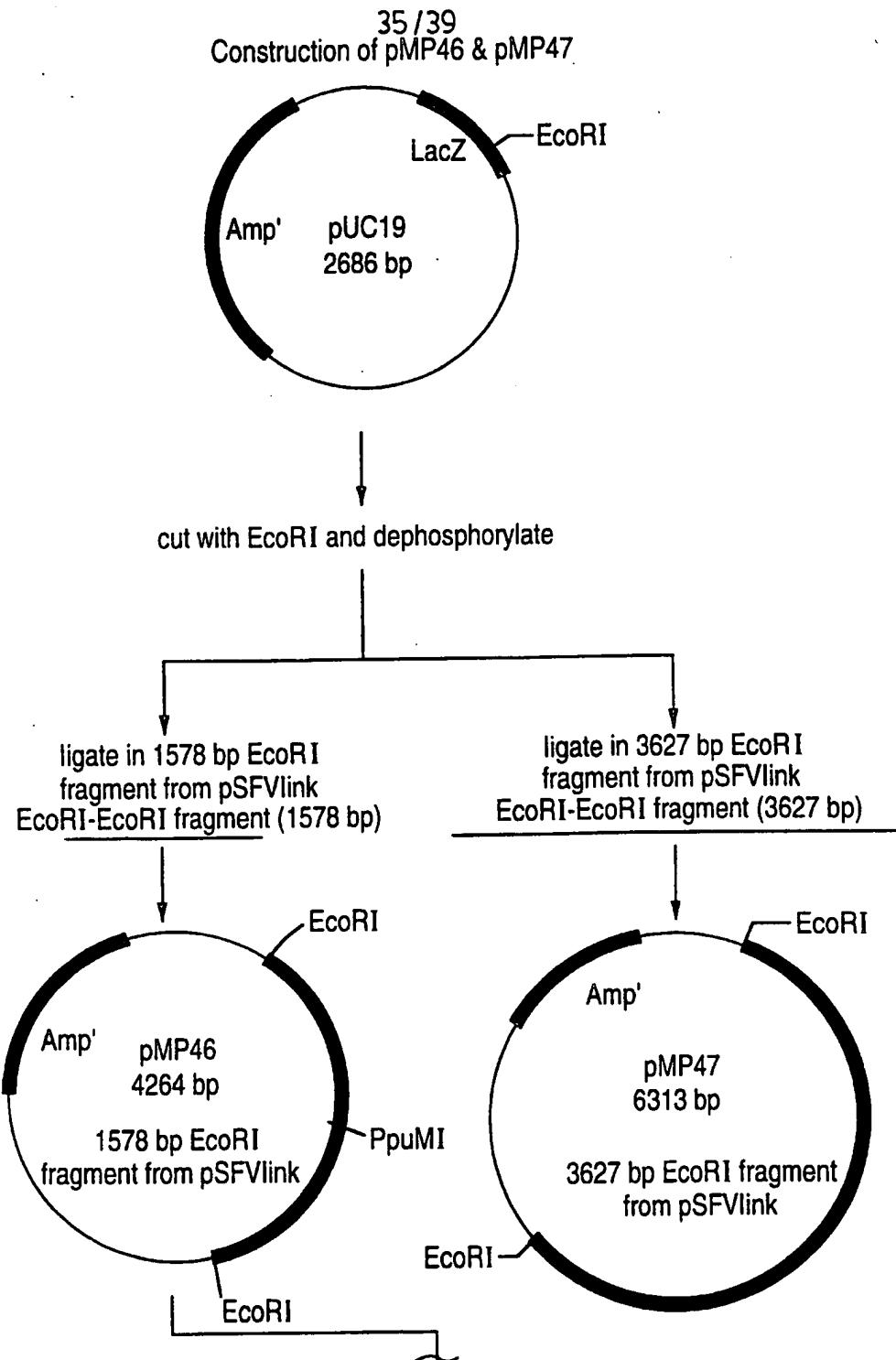


FIG.11A

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Construction of pMP70

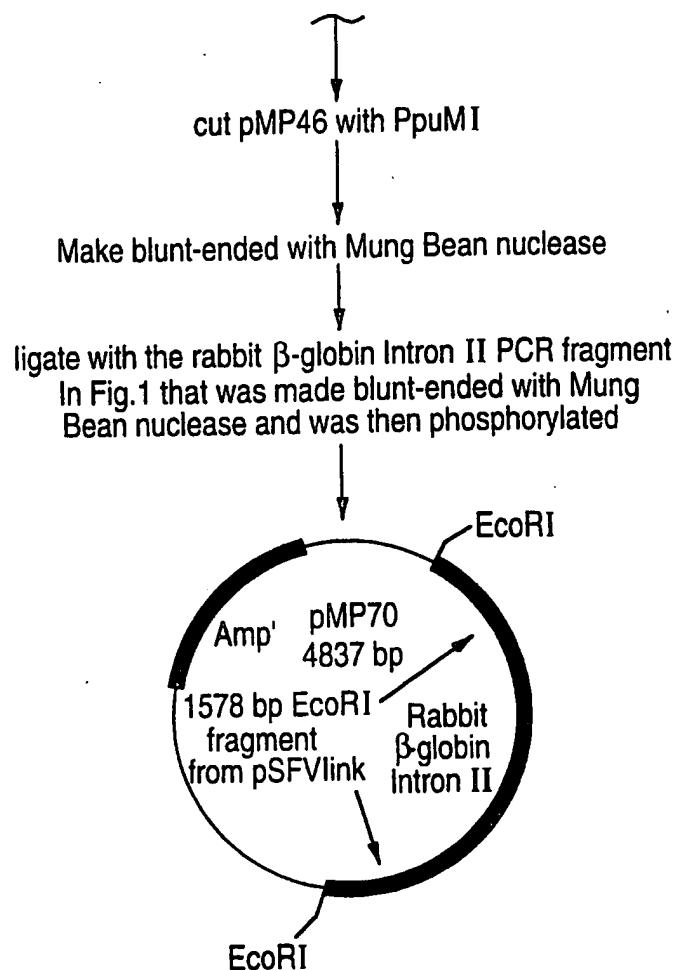


FIG.11B

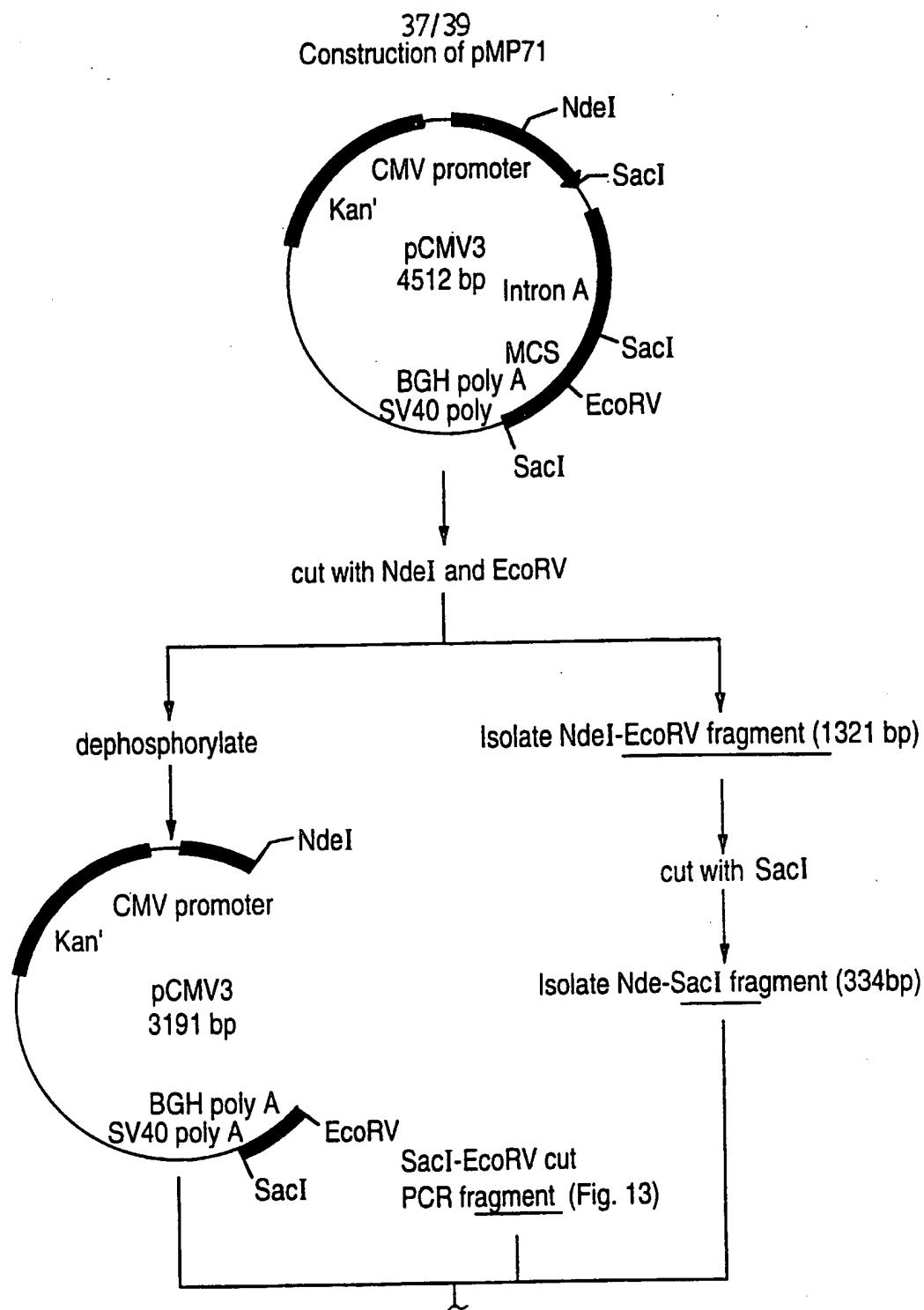


FIG.12A

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Construction of pMP71 (cont'd)

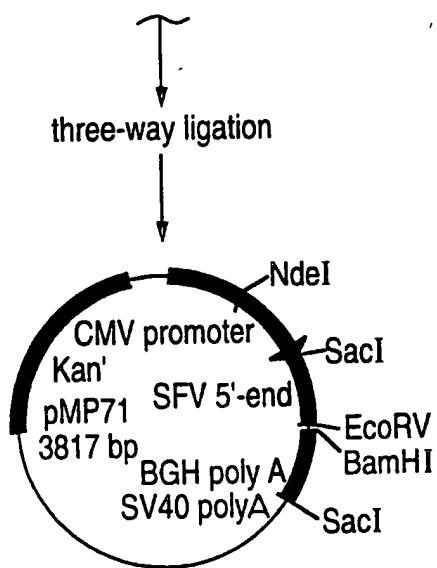


FIG.12B

FIG. 13

1 CGTTTAGTGA ACCGTTATGGC GGATGTGTGA CATAACAGAC GCCAAAGAT 50
51 TTGTTCCAG CTCCCTGCCAC CTCCGCTACG CGAGAGATTA ACCACCCACG 100
101 ATGGCCGCCA AAGTGCATGT TGATATTGAG GCTGACAGCC CATTTCATCAA 150
151 GTCTTTGCAG AAGGCATTTC CGTCGTTCGA GGTGGAGTCA TTGCAGGTCA 200
201 CACCAAATGA CCATGCAAAT GCCAGAGCAT TTTCGCACCT GGCTACAAA 250
251 TTGATCGAGC AGGAGACTGA CAAAGACACA CTCATCTTGG AT 292 39/39

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inten: Application No
PCT/CA 98/01065

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 C12N15/86

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 6 C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 95 27044 A (BIOPTION AB ;LILJESTROEM PETER (SE); GAROFF HENRIK (SE)) 12 October 1995 cited in the application see the whole document, especially page 8, lines 12-22 ---	1-14
Y	WO 96 40945 A (CONNAUGHT LAB ;LI XIAOMAO (CA); EWASYSHYN MARY E (CA); SAMBHARA SU) 19 December 1996 cited in the application see the whole document, especially page 6, lines 2-9; page 14, lines 15-21; and page 23, lines 18-23 ---	1-14
A	WO 96 17072 A (VIAGENE INC) 6 June 1996 see the whole document ---	1-14 -/-

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 April 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

03/05/1999

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Mandl, B

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/CA 98/01065

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	LILJESTROEM P. ET AL.: "A NEW GENERATION OF ANIMAL CELL EXPRESSION VECTORS BASED ON THE SEMLIKI FOREST VIRUS REPLICON" BIO/TECHNOLOGY, vol. 9, December 1991, pages 1356-1361, XP000616021 cited in the application see the whole document ----	1-14

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Information on patent family members

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